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Wrestling REVUE

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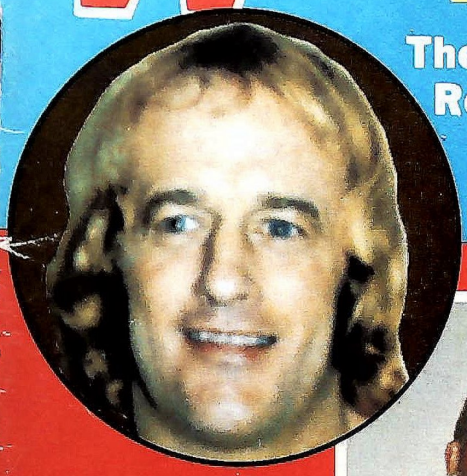
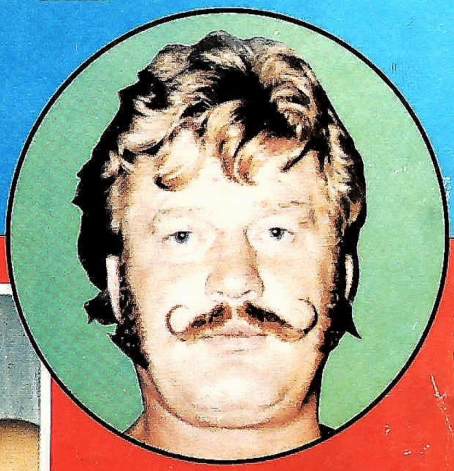


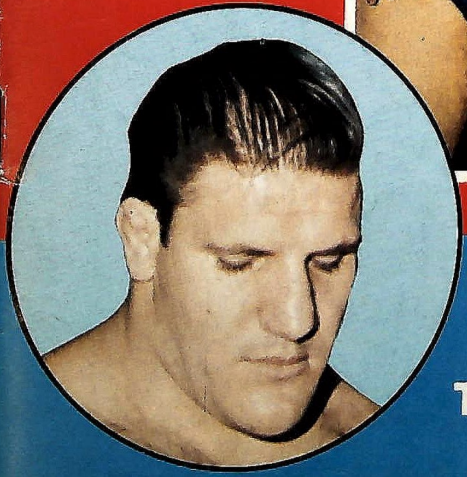
The Prime Of Rene Goulet

Red Bastien Conquers Texas



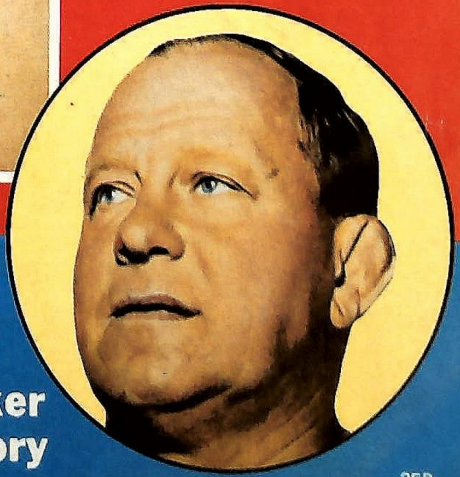
THE SAGA OF...

RAY STEVENS AND NICK BOCKWINKEL



BRUNO Returns Home

The George Becker Story



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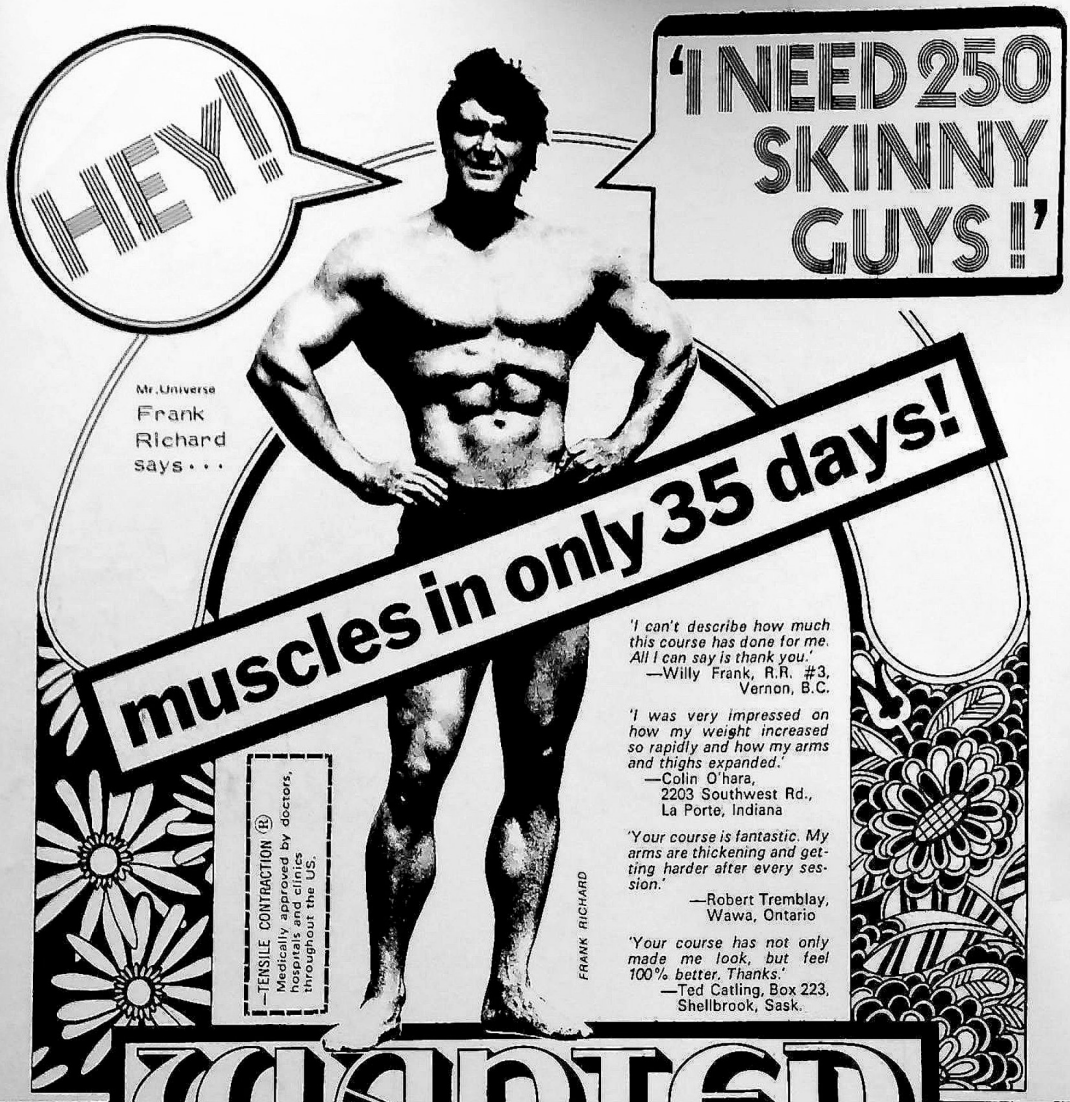
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'I NEED 250 SKINNY GUYS!'
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WANTED

Yes, I need 250 skinny guys RIGHT NOW to test my fantastic New Body Building Secret — TENSILE CONTRACTION® by mail. All I need from you is a few short minutes a day of your time (in the privacy of your home) following my secret method — BUT, I ONLY WANT YOU IF YOU ARE UNDERWEIGHT, WEAK OR FLABBY. If you have a trim, masculine, well built, sexy body at this moment, then please, DO NOT SEND for TENSILE CONTRACTION®.

I want these new secrets to go ONLY to those guys WHO NEED SENSATIONAL PHYSICAL IMPROVEMENT . . . Instantly! In short, the more out of shape you are RIGHT NOW the better I like it. Whether you are tall or short, young or not so young, here's your chance to take me up on this unique offer today — NOW by testing this super muscle building method . . .

NO APPARATUS TO BUY. There is absolutely no apparatus or exercise contraptions to buy. I supply all that is necessary. The complete course involves only a few minutes a day for just 35 days. You will notice DEFINITE RESULTS in only 14 days! Nor do you have to complete the whole course. If after only a few days you feel you have 'muscled-up' enough then simply quit the course. You are under NO obligation whatsoever! HERE'S WHAT TENSILE CONTRACTION® DID FOR ME . . . I added 2 full inches of solid muscle to my arms, 4 inches ot my chest, broadened my shoulders fantastically and transformed my whole physical appearance in just five short weeks . . . and I want to prove it can be done by anyone who wants impressive rippling muscles that burst with vitality, fitness and lifetime strength! TENSILE CONTRACTION® reveals the amazing shortcut to a weightlifters physique without weights . . . without barbells . . . and without exhausting exercise. Results are guaranteed many times faster. So far, I have tested TENSILE CONTRACTION® on 200 high school students and 150 laborers. THE RESULTS HAVE BEEN LITTLE SHORT OF MIRACULOUS. Thin, skinny pupils have gained 10-20, even 30 lbs. of sexy, rippling muscle, while those flabby and overweight have quickly lost every last ounce of flab from their waists, hips and entire bodies. Instantly!

Yes, I'm asking you to witness a muscle building miracle ON YOUR OWN BODY. Turn on with fabulous TENSILE CONTRACTION® and slap solid muscle on your arms, chest, shoulders and legs. FAST! Change your weakness into devastating, fearless strength and turn unwanted flab into trim "Mr. Universe" muscle. You have nothing to lose but your skinny body . . . Send TODAY FOR THIS UNIQUE OFFER JUST 25¢ COIN.

THE BODYBUILDING CENTER Dept 12120
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Dear Frank,
I enclose 25¢ coin. Count me in on your "Mr. Universe in 35 days" Musclebuilding Secrets. I understand that I am under no obligation and that I may quit TENSILE CONTRACTION® at any time without having to return the course.

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From Japan! An "electronic miracle" for your engine that

TURNS POLLUTION INTO POWER!

GIVES YOU UP TO FOUR EXTRA GALLONS EVERY TIME YOU FILL UP YOUR CAR!

Someone had to do it! Someone...somewhere ...had to discover how to *burn gas twice in your engine!* So that the waste gas that's pouring out of your exhaust today *could be transformed into a source of extra fuel, and incredible extra power!*

Let Us Repeat This Fact Again! This Device BURNS GAS TWICE In Your Engine! So You Take Off Like A Rocket At The Lights! AND YOUR GAS-GAUGE NEEDLE SEEMS TO BE STUCK AT FULL!

Right now—for just ninety seconds—come with us inside the engine of your car, and realize the incredible ingenuity and beauty of this idea. . . .

At the present moment, your engine works by feeding gas into your cylinders, and exploding it with a spark. That spark is produced by a spark plug; and each time gas is poured into your cylinder, that plug fires once. *And only once!*

How long does that spark last, even if that plug is brand-new? *About one-thousandth of a second!* And how much of that gas does even a brand-new spark plug burn? *Far less than half!* And what happens to the unburned gas? *It pours right out your exhaust into the air, where it chokes you and every other driver on the road!*

But who in the world ever said that a spark plug should only fire ONCE, every time you poured a new load of gasoline into its cylinder! Why only allow that spark to burn that gas for no more than a thousandth of a second? *Why not "stutter" that spark—stretch it out—keep it flaming in that cylinder for three . . . four . . . even five times as long!*

Yes, why not SUPER-IGNITE that gas! So that every single drop of it produced up to 30% MORE POWER . . . up to 30% MORE MILEAGE . . . AT THE VERY SAME MOMENT THAT EXHAUST POLLUTION IS CUT DOWN ALMOST BY HALF!

How Many Years Will It Take American Car Manufacturers To Put This Japanese "Spark-Stretcher" On Their Engines? And HOW MANY DAYS MORE ARE YOU GOING TO WAIT, BEFORE YOU PROVE THIS KIND OF INCREDIBLE NEW PERFORMANCE FROM IT —ENTIRELY AT OUR RISK!

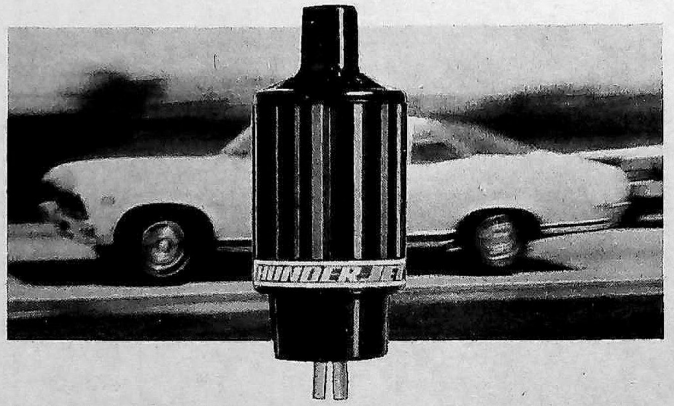
But now comes the real pay-off! *The breathtaking new performance that you can produce from your car in just three minutes—without even touching a tool!*

All you do is this: Open your hood. Locate your distributor. Simply pull off the wire leading from the distributor

BONUS BENEFITS!

- Super starting sparks—your engine roars to life the instant you turn the ignition key—*even in below freezing weather!*
- No more summer stalling or overheating! The hotter, stronger sparks keep your plugs clean . . . keep your engine clean . . . keep your muffler clean. *No caked dirt clogs the inside of your car, and can never turn it into a summer oven!*
- Plugs last AT LEAST twice as long! They stay clean . . . stay gapped . . . stay strong! *Another $10 savings—twice a year!*
- And—above all—you get a *cleaner* engine that needs far less repairs! You get a *cleaner* muffler that lasts twice as long! And you—and every other driver on the road who uses this "Japanese Miracle"—*gets a CLEANER exhaust, CLEANER air, and CLEANER lungs! And YOU save up to $50 a year doing it!*

Why not try it yourself—entirely at our risk—today!



to your engine. Plug on this Japanese SUPER JET to your distributor. Put the wire back on top of the SUPER JET. And close the hood.

You've done all the work you need! *Now the SUPER JET takes over!*

Get into your car, and switch on the engine. *From the very first moment, you'll see and feel the difference!* That engine will literally *hum* with new, throbbing power. When you release the emergency brake, your car will glide out of its parking space . . . *roll down the street with your foot hardly touching the pedal.*

Every thirty or forty feet, give that car an extra little shot of gas. Feel it spurt ahead instantly. *Test immediately, the marvelous new power that's singing under your foot!*

We Ask You To Pull Up At The Stop Light, To Another Car Of Approximately The Same Year And Make As Your Own!

Sit there for a moment, side by side with that other car. Nod at the other driver as he recognizes that you're both driving the same car—*on the outside!*

Then wait until the light changes to green. Let the other car start first. Wait till the other car gets half way across the street. *And then slam your foot down on the gas pedal!*

Before that other car has even crossed the street, you will have caught up with him. For one brief second, you and that other car will race fender to fender. *Then you will flash away from him . . . you will leave him a full block behind . . . you will look in your rear view mirror and see the startled look of amazement in that other driver's eyes!*

And Now Test This Blazing New Power In A Hundred Different Ways!

But this is just the beginning! We want you to test this revolutionary new Japanese spark-intensifier — *entirely at our risk!*

Use it to flatten out the steepest hills at the slightest touch of your foot . . . *to whisk you over the top with power to spare—while other cars are huffing and puffing half-way down the slope behind you!*

Use it as a life-saving bonus whenever you pull out to pass another car! Prove to yourself from the very first day that this "double-gas-burn" skyrockets you past those other cars in 2, 4, 6 and even 8 seconds LESS than you've ever known before! So fast in fact, that when you stop later for coffee and they finally catch up with you, *they'll beg you for the secret!*

Yes, and really open it up on the throughway! *See for yourself the top speed THIS KIND OF ENGINE can now deliver to you!* And then double-check the enormous gas savings it gives you at these high speeds! Prove to yourself that at 50 . . . 60 . . . even 70 miles an hour, *your foot is still half-way up on the pedal! That you are now saving $50 . . . $100 . . . $200 a year on your gas bills! That this revolutionary new SUPER JET actually pays back its full cost, in gas savings alone, during the first two to three months that you own it—OR WE SEND EVERY CENT OF YOUR MONEY BACK.*

Prove It Entirely At Our Risk!

This Japanese SUPER JET—proved by scientifically-recorded tests at both the University of Tokyo and the University of Kyoto—*can be obtained in the United States only through this advertisement!* Its price is only $12.98 complete. *And that is the total cost! There is no installation fee! A twelve-year-old child can install it in minutes!*

And most important of all, *we guarantee that you will save the full purchase price in gas bills alone—in the first two or three months that you use it! Or every cent of your money back at once!*

You have nothing to lose! A whole new world of driving power and economy to gain! *Why not try it at our risk . . . today!*

MAIL NO-RISK COUPON TODAY

SUPER JET, Dept. C.S.G.1
227 East 45th St., New York, N.Y. 10017

Yes, I want to try your revolutionary new SUPER JET, entirely at your risk.

☐ I am enclosing only $12.98 to cover full costs at this time. I will try it on my car for three months at your risk. If it does not do *everything* you say, I will then return it to you for every cent of my money back *at once.*

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(Please print)
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State _____ *Zip* _____

☐ *If you wish your order sent COD,* check here. Send only $1.00 now as good-will deposit. Pay postman balance, plus COD charges. Same full money-back guarantee, of course.

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THE WORLD'S LARGEST WRESTLING MAGAZINE

Wrestling REVUE

VOLUME 13, NO.8, AUGUST, 1972

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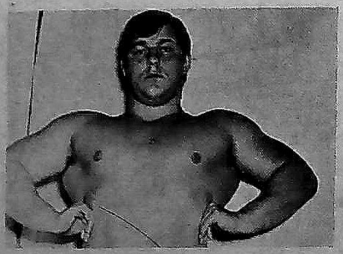
IN OUR NEXT ISSUE

The September issue of WRESTLING REVUE will again be packed full of photos on your favorites. The concluding chapters of both "The George Becker Story" and "The Sage of Nick Bockwinkel and Ray Stevens" as well as feature stories on Cowboy Bob Kelly, Stan Pulaski, Victor Rivera, Billy Two Rivers and Johnny War Eagle, and Bob Sweetan. Also included will be all of the regular monthly features including The Manager's Corner, Readers' Pros and Cons, the Editorial, Ask Wrestling Revue, Where Is He Today?, Fans' Candid Corner, and Fan Club Chatter. All this, and much more, in the September issue of the world's largest selling wrestling magazine.



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Important Notice: Due to the tremendous volumn of mail that we recieve we can no longer give personal answers to inquries. In the future we will select the most important questions and answer them in a new special section called "Ask Wrestling Revue" in each issue.

Wrestling Revue, published monthly by Champion Sports Publishing Corporation, 351 Manville Road, Pleasantville, N.Y. 10570. Bert Randolph Sugar, President. Subscription rates: $6.00 one year, $11.00 two years, $14.00 three years in U.S., Possessions and Canada. $7.00 one year, $12.00 two years, $15 three years in all other countries in U.S. funds. On change of address please allow six weeks to assure delivery. Second-class postage paid at Pleasantville, N.Y. and at additional mailing offices. All rights reserved by Champion Sports Publishing Corp. 1972. Printed in Canada.

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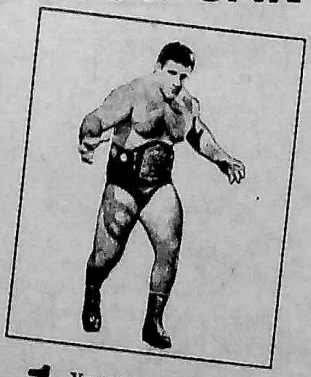

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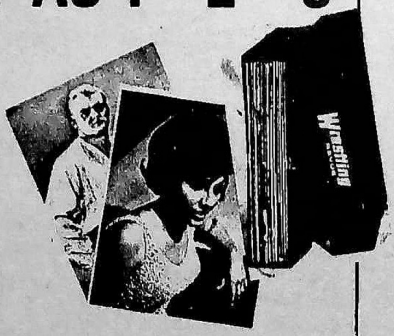

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☐ **OFFER NO. 1** one-year's subscription-PLUS a FREE pin-up [ ]-$6.00

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THE MANAGER'S CORNER!...

By GENTLEMAN SAUL WEINGEROFF

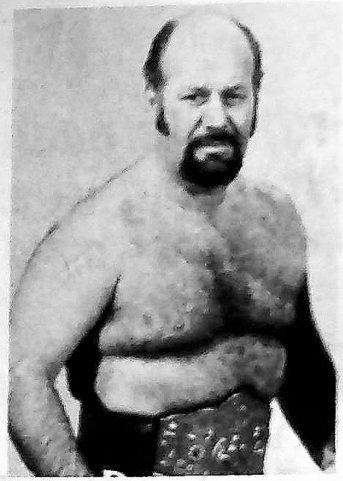
Pat Malone works out with Ginger, the wrestling bear. Pat is training Ginger and says she will be ready to wrestle soon.

El Paso, Texas, has come up with a new tag team combination, the two sons of Gory Guerrero. They are two of the fastest wrestlers in the world today. I predict a great future for them as pro wrestlers, for they were outstanding amateurs. After all, they had a great teacher in their father, who was lightheavyweight wrestling champ of the world.

Mike Graham, son of Eddie Graham, turned pro in Tampa, Fla., last month. Mike, a champion weight lifter, is one of the strongest men in the world.

Jay Strongbow, the Indian who is now wrestling in the New York area, is one of the greatest Indian matmen I have ever seen.

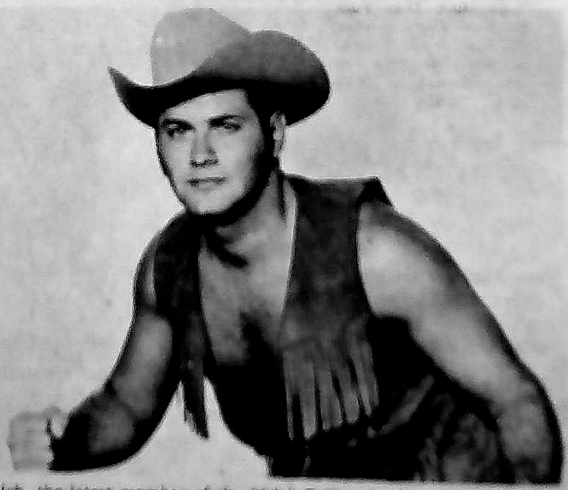
Smiling Bobby Roberts, who was a top pro in the forties and fifties, died in Florida last January. He was a fine and a close friend. He retired from active wrestling in 1956 to work as an



Don Greene holds the U.S. Jr. Heavyweight title belt recognized in the south.

engineer for the Florida State Road Department. Bobby made his home in Daytona Beach.

Sebastian Cabot, the English movie actor, made a personal appearance in Amarillo, Texas, last year and told a TV interviewer that he used to wrestle in England before he became an actor. He said that even today he could beat any American wrestler. Dory Funk Senior heard him. Dory lives outside of Amarillo. He jumped in his car and before Caboth got off the air he arrived at the TV station and challenged Cabot to a match then and there. He even brought extra tights for



Roy Lee Welch, the latest member of the Welch Fuller clan to make a name in professional wrestling.

(Continued On Page 65)

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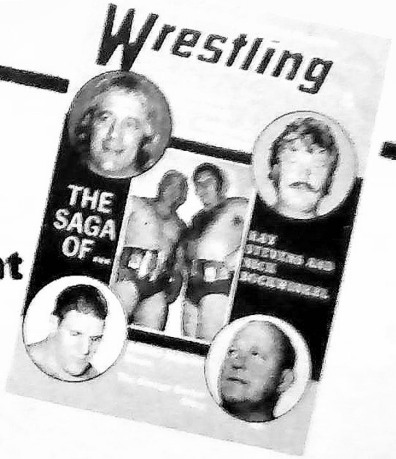
From the publishers of Wrestling Revue, comes the second great achievement in the history of wrestling publications.

First there was WRESTLING REVUE, and now there is WRESTLING MONTHLY



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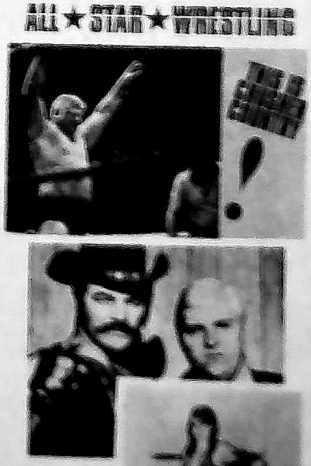

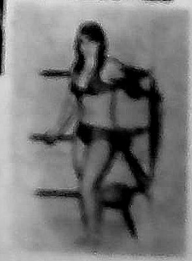

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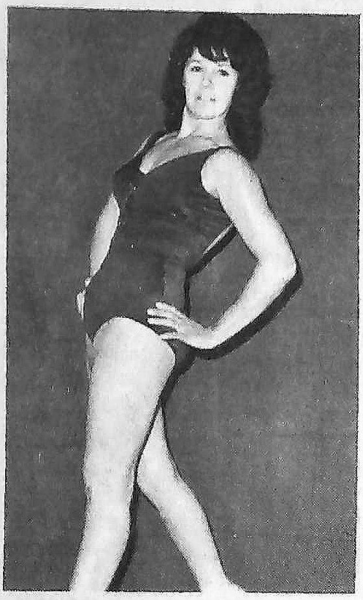
READERS' pros and cons



ANN CASEY FOR HIS BIRTHDAY

Sirs:

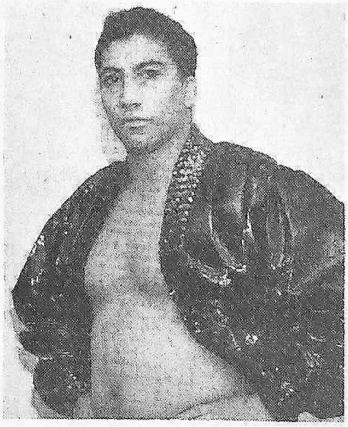
Thanks for the birthday present. What I mean is thanks for the story and great pictures of Ann Casey in your Feb. 1972 issue. You see, my birthday is in Feb. and I couldn't have had a nicer present than these pictures of my favorite gal, Ann Casey. I have a scrapbook on Ann and all these pictures I will add to my collection. I hated to hear abput Ann hurting her knee earlier. I'm glad to hear that she has already made her comeback. I think Ann is very beautiful and those legs are the greatest. I think she looks better than any of the movie stars. I can truly see why they call Ann "Miss Body Beautiful." I think she has a very good chance of becoming the Ladies World Champion wrestler. I would appreciate it if you could put me in contact with Ann. I would love to hear from her. Thank you very much and keep up with your fine coverage of the girls in your magazine. I would like to see a story in Judy Grable also. And I would like to see more about these amateur girls. How about doing an article where you have pictures of several of the girl wrestlers. You could include Ann Casey, Judy Grable, Penny Banner, Joyce Grable, Jean Antone, Vivian Vachon, Toni Rose, Donna Christanello, Cora Combs, and Fabulous Moolah. Thanks again for the birthday present. You have a very fine magazine.

Jim Gentry
Baxter, Tennessee

GEORGIA FAN WRITES

Sirs:

I would like to request something. If it is all possible, would you please print something about some of the following; Bob Armstrong, Big Bill Brumo, Roberto Soto, Dicky Steinborn, El Mongol, Leon Ogle (he is usually a referee, but wrestles sometimes). If you will put something good about them.



ROBERTO SOTO

In the January issue 1972, you showed Dicky Steinborn in the story about "The Monroe Brothers." He was getting kicked in the gut.

It would be most appreciated.

Vaden Garner
LaGrange, Georgia

(Editor's Note: I'll bet the kick wasn't most appreciated by Mr. Steinborn).

CARPENTER REALLY GREAT!

Sirs:

You do a great job on your magazine. A couple of months ago I sent away for the back issue offer, 8 issues for $2.00, or the wrestling grab bag. When I received my magazines I saw the July '68 issue with Ed Carpentier on the front. I browsed through the issue and the pictures were great. All those flips, somersaults, etc., were great. No wrestler or fan I think will ever find out how he does all those acrobatic moves. I also saw Ed in a movie called "Seven Surprises" he teamed up with Dom DeNucci against The Kangaroos in a tag match in the movie. At first I didn't believe Ed could do all this acrobatic stuff, but in the moves he sure did. No doubt about it, Ed is the greatest.

George Reed
Springfield, Ill.

THE A.W.A. IS THE BEST

Sirs:

I can stand it no longer! Although I do enjoy WR, I must speak out on your terrible sin. What is it, you ask. Prejudice against the A.W.A.

I do not understand why the articles about the great grapplers of the Midwest and Canada are few and far between. Maybe the A.W.A. is not quite as old as the N.W.A. but that doesn't mean that they deserve all the attention. Three-fourths of the articles in WR are on grapplers from the N.W.A. or W.W.W.F. Neither organization has the calibre of wrestlers here in Wisconsin, Illinois, Minnesota, Iowa, and Montreal.

(Continued On Page 60)

Now! Share Verne Gagne's method of keeping weight down... strength and energy up.

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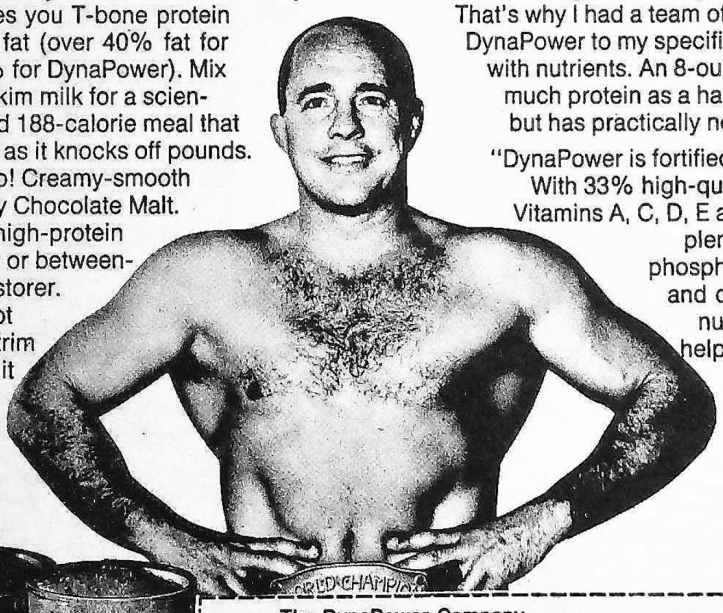

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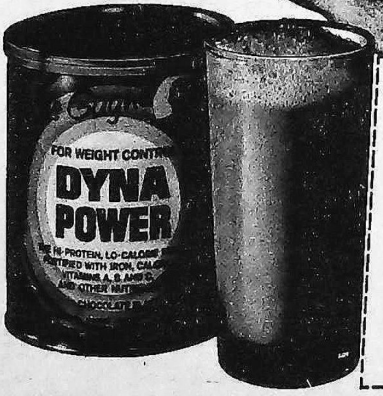

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EDITORIAL

By NORMAN H. KIETZER

Many have written to us in protest of our new policy of not giving personal answers to letters sent to Wrestling Revue. In the past we answered such letters when they included a self-addressed, stamped envelope. We will no longer do this.

The decision was a hard one, since many fans found this a vital service. However, it got to the point where this editor was spending half his time answering letters.

We analyzed the questions and found they fell into four categories.

One, most of the questions could be answered by checking into our past issues. Since many of the past issues are available from us, we suggest that fans order these and search them before asking us.

The second big category was that of people wanting personal information about wrestlers. Often we did not have this information, nor will we give out such things as phone numbers and addresses of wrestlers if we do have them. In the past we used to attempt to forward letters sent to wrestlers in care of us, but we have discontinued that practice because then we are blamed if they are not answered. Fans just seem to be unable to understand that a wrestler receives thousands of fan letters a week and could not possibly answer them all.

Third, we were constantly asked how to become a professional wrestler. We are magazine publishers, not promoters and trainers, and so we do not have anything to do with that aspect of the business. We only write about it.

The fourth category really is bothersome. This is the fan who disputes some statement that we have made. Now we don't mind being corrected when we are wrong, but 90% of the time we are right and most fans who write to us won't believe we are correct, no matter how much proof we give them.

A good example is this recent happening. We did a profile on El Solitario, the great Mexican masked wrestler who holds the N.W.A. World's Lightheavyweight Championship. We published a photo of El Solitario with the article.

A few months later one of our competitors did a feature story on El Sicodelico, the masked brother of Mil Mascaras, who is now wrestling in California. Now our competitor used posed shots of El Sicodelico and Mil Mascaras with the article that he printed. He also used a series of what he said were photos of Mil Mascaras and El Sicodelico wrestling against each other.

The photos were in actual fact photos of a match between El Solitario and Mil Mascaras. Now we don't know if this rival editor was so lacking in knowledge of wrestling that he couldn't recognize the World's Lightheavyweight Champion when he saw a photo of him, whether he is so lacking in ethics that he thought the wrestling fans who read the magazine would be fooled and couldn't tell the difference between the photos of two masked men, or whether he simply is so haphazard in his procedures that he thought that El Solitario and El Sicodelico were the same wrestler.

Whatever the reason, we began to receive letters from fans saying that we had made a mistake and printed a photo of El Sicodelico with an article on El Solitario. Other fans wrote to "inform" us that El Solitario and El Sicodelico were one and the same wrestler. Of course, as usual with such correction letters, the writer was wrong.

Wrestling Revue is not infallible, but we didn't get to be the largest selling wrestling magazine in the world by attempting to cover up our lack of photo material on a wrestler by printing photos of another grappler and trying to fool our readers into thinking that we had photos of a particular man. When we make mistakes we will admit to them by publishing a retraction, but we have too much respect for our readers to try to pass off that we are giving them something that we are not.

From now on, if you have a question concerning wrestling, feel free to write us. We will answer those questions with merit in a new section called "ASK WRESTLING REVUE" but we will not send a personal answer. We hope that fans will recognize the necessity of such a policy and go along with it.

ASK WRESTLING REVUE

J.S. of Baltimore, Maryland wants to know how he can become a professional wrestler. Our suggestion is based on the fact that we have noticed that the men who do best in professional are those who did well in amateur wrestling and came to the pro sport with a solid background in fundamental wrestling knowledge that can be gained in amateur wrestling. In most areas there is a program either at the Y.M.C.A. or in your local high school that you can participate in. Enter such a program and stick with it. If you do well in high school, continue in competition on the college, A.A.U. and U.S. Wrestling Federation level. Once you have done well on those levels, I am sure that a professional wrestling promoter will be interested in you. Contact him and tell him about your amateur background and if he feels you have the potential to become a professional wrestler I am sure he will put you in touch with veteran pro grapplers who can train you.

J.G. of Atlanta, Georgia, wants to know how he can write to his favorite wrestler. As we said in our editorial, wrestlers receive many thousnads of pieces of mail a week. Many attempt to answer the fans, but few find the time necessary to perform that impossible task. You can write to most wrestlers in care of your promoter. He will make sure that the wrestler gets any mail sent to him in care of the booking office. But please remember that you are being unfair to expect every wrestler to personally answer all of his mail.

If you have a question that you think many fans would like to know the answer to, write the question to ASK WRESTLING REVUE, P.O. Box 221, Pleasantville, New York 10570. Each month we will answer the best questions in this column.

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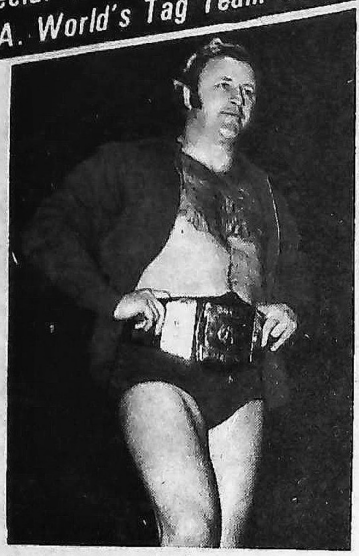
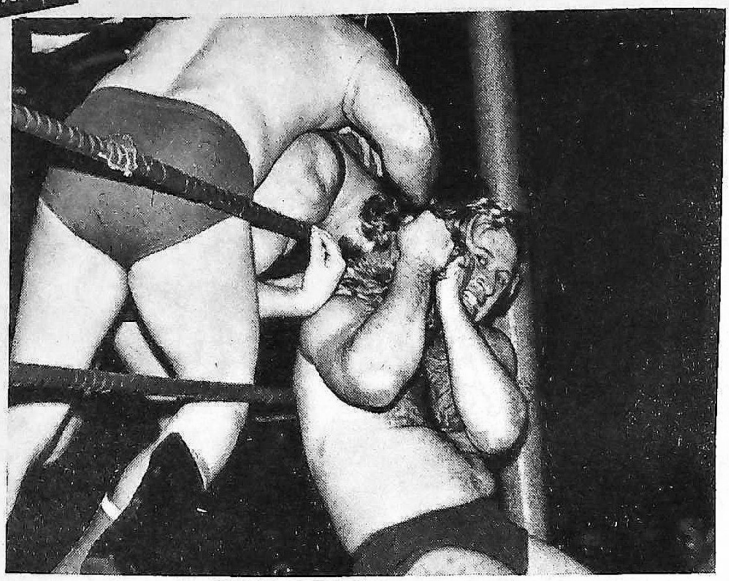
A special two-part feature on the A.W.A. World's Tag Team Champions.



Nick Bockwinkel, with the A.W.A. World's Tag Team Championship belt around his waist.



Stevens and Bockwinkel have trapped Red Bastien in their corner and are working him over. Tactics like this are illegal and unpopular, but they won the title for Ray and Nick.

THE SAGA OF NICK BOCKWINKEL

By G. R. ANTHONY

Chapter 1: NICK BOCKWINKEL – GIANT KILLER

Nick Bockwinkel irritates a lot of people – he couldn't care less!

According to Nick, his background was not particularly unique. He is the son of Warren Bockwinkel, a wrestler whose athletic life extended throughout 20 years, and who attained the ultimate in professional wrestling, the World's Heavyweight Championship.

"There have been a number of sons who followed in their father's footsteps," Nick elaborated, "the Steinborns, the Peseks, the Garibaldis and myself. And of all of them, none surpassed their father's greatness.

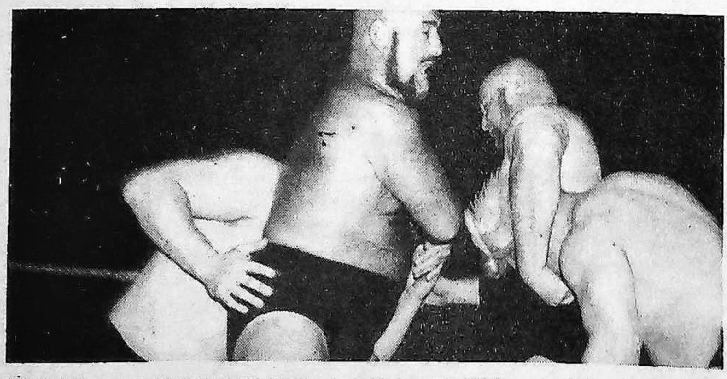
"I have. I have because I am better than my father. I have all the knowledge, skills and ability he had, plus my own perserverance and dilligent work, and I've just turned out to be a much greater wrestler. He was good. But I'm everything he was, and I've added to the package."

The Bockwinkel definition of an average background leaves wrestling fans gaping. What could be more satisfying and rewarding than to be submerged in wrestling for lunch and wrestling for supper. A dizzying smorgasbord of gourmet wrestling was spread before young Nick from the time he could feast his senses.

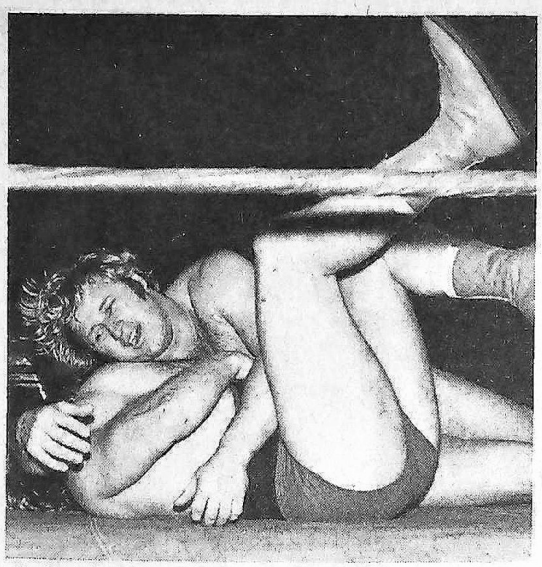
"At five years of age I had seen the ins and outs of my business," Nick admits. "My understanding of the game, both then and now, was greater than most wrestlers have after they've been working at it for 30 years." Nick grew up in crowded, wrestling-consious St. Louis and went to high school "like everybody else" (another reference to the 'what's so different about my background?' idea he was trying to impress upon me).

Somehow, in talking to Nick, I sensed, not just the conflict in our personalities, but the conflict within his own personality. There was the "Look, you surely realize that I'm absolutely the greatest wrestler in the world, and I hope you realize I'm being thoughtful and kind in talking to you" feeling that I got, as well as the "You are asking too much of my patience with all these foolish questions" feeling. But I was determined that my questions would not go unanswered.

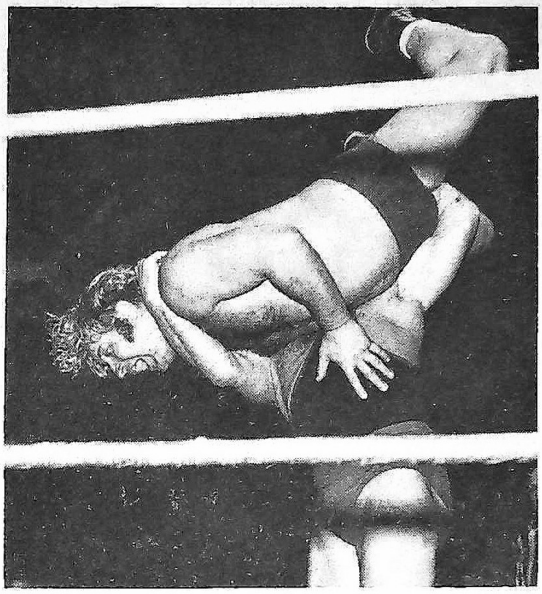
Question: "How do you define



Mad Dog and Butcher Vachon gave Ray and Nick a real battle as they introduced the heads of Stevens and Bockwinkel very violently, but at the end of the night the California duo were still champions.



Bockwinkel has Red Bastien down on the mat for the winning pin. It was a real upset when Red and Crusher lost the title, but since then Ray and Nick have proved it was no fluke.



Red Bastien is about to body slam Tricky Nicky Bockwinkel. Although Red had the upper hand here, Nick and Ray came back to win the match and the title.

AND RAY STEVENS

your style, and how does it compare with that of your father's?"

Nick: "My father was more conservative than I am. Of course, the whole wrestling profession has opened up more now.

"I think I represent, more than anything else, the classic type of wrestler today. There are a lot of men who are big – the Bruno Sammartinos, the Calhouns, the Crushers and the Bruisers. These guys are all definitely a credit to the business in general. They're unique in their own fashion, their own style, but how many of them can you really classify as classic wrestlers? How many of them have true wrestling ability?

"I define as classic wrestlers men like myself, Verne Gagne, Dory Funk Jr., Jack Brisco, Red Bastien, the late Jim Hady – these are people I define as classic wrestlers."

Question: "What sets apart the classic wrestler from wrestlers in general?"

Nick: "A classic wrestler has a combination of tremendous wrestling ability, speed, agility, excellent balance, quickness – yet he is not a weakling in any way. All these men I mentioned fit into the same category. They weigh anywhere from 225 up to about 255."

Question: "What is your height and weight?"

Nick: "6'2", 245 pounds. Strange as it may seem, most of your champions have been in that weight class. For some reason or other, the big behemoths such as Calhoun, Crusher and Bruiser, men who don't have the classic wrestling style, great as whatever their single attribute is, it has never been enough to make them champions."

Question: "Can't you qualify that? Crusher and Bruiser *were* champions for awhile. Or do you think that was just a transcient thing?"

Nick: "Yes, I do. They sometimes reach that spot or that moment in time. . .I don't mean to say that these people don't have ability. I don't mean to push them aside, because they are a constant threat. One of the biggest battles in the world is brawn vs. brain.

"So we have to consider the classic wrestlers as more of a brain than a brawn thing. That's the battle of mankind – the big bear vs. the man-type thing. So what happens is, the brawn-type individual can become a street fighter or a brawler, but he cannot raise himself to our level.

"Yet we can lower ourselves to his. We can go both ways. That type of wrestler can go only one way. He is stuck in his stratum. We aren't, you see. As a classic wrestler I can get (if I have to) as earthy and guttery, cavemanish and slobby, as it necessarily takes for me to deal with my opponent – and I will!

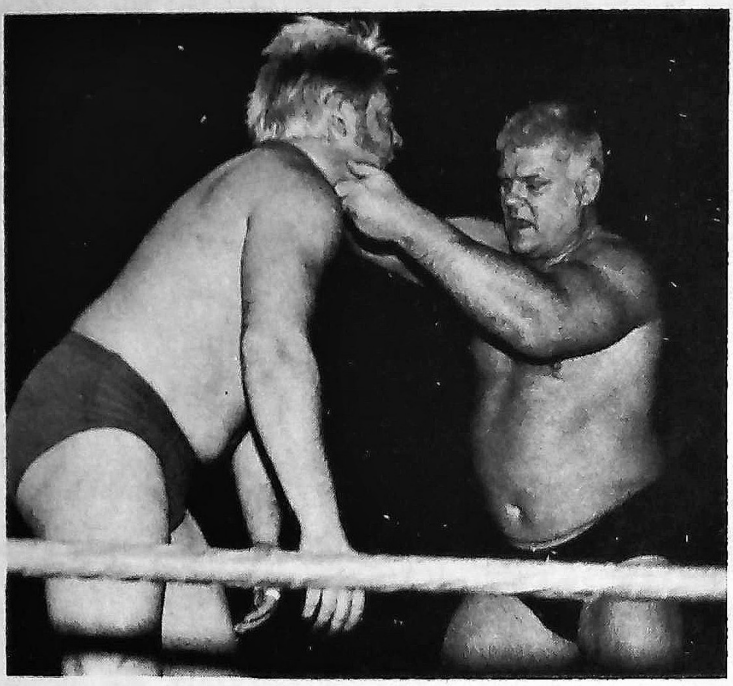
"In addition to being a classic wrestler, a success, I am a winner. And winning is the name of the game."

Question: "Are you a perfectionist?"

Nick: "I am a perfectionist, yes. Most perfectionists are temperamental to the point where if something can't be exactly as they want it, they either don't do it at all, or they throw it out.

"But I consider myself quite a paradoxical person, and I enjoy being so. I find that I will do some things which are so ironically contradictory to something else I've done (be they in the ring or in my private life), things that in no way would you say, 'Well, a person who does this would never do this.'

"No, that's just the kind of person I am. I like this. It keeps people off balance. It allowas my private life to be private. People cannot plan on, nor figure out a way to get around or about me."



The Crusher gave Ray Stevens a real going over in the title match, but at the end of the night it was Stevens and Bockwinkel with the belts and the title.

Question: "Do you admit that you are an egotistical person?"

Nick: "I am an egotistical person, but I have the ability to come down and do things which only a humble person can do. And if you are plotting against me and working your plans on my ego, you'll find yourself totally shattered. Because I will come around from a position of total humility and while you're looking for the ego, the humility will kill you.

"That might be in wrestling or any facet of my life. And just about the time you figure, 'Well, I know what he did that time,' I'll do something unexpected. This is a thing that is in me. I have become aware of it and I like it.

"So even though I am a perfectionist, I am at the same time one who, when I do something and somehow I can't achieve perfection – well, usually everything I do turns out perfect."

Question: "What more can I ask you, Nick? You tell me that almost everything you do is perfection. You admit that you are egotistical."

Nick: "I might say I get more egotistical as I go through life. I find that there are very few things I've tried that I can't do, and that includes working on my own automobile.

"I'm the type of person who dresses up meticulously, but at the same time, if something is wrong with my car (even though I don't care to be a mechanic) I'll get my fingers in there and get greasy as hell finding out what is wrong.

"I don't like anybody to tell me something. I remember President Kennedy's words, 'Never trust the professionals.' Even though we must rely on them, be they plumber or plasterer, doctor or lawyer, my mind constantly works. I am ready to challenge and question anybody with the question, 'Why? Explain it to me.' And if they don't have the answer, they're in trouble right off the bat.

"I'm outraged at poor quality service. I don't mind paying for something, be it in a restaurant or a clothing shop, if I get something tailored or made for me. But if it's not what I asked for, and I am paying for it (and I usually expalin myself explicitly beforehand), I don't want to have to come back and argue later.

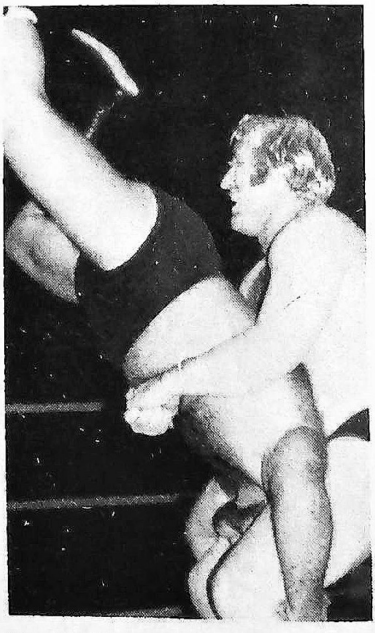
"I want to straighten it out in the beginning so there'll be no argument. Then if there is an argument, they'll know they lost it already – and they'd better get themselves in gear and correct it."

Question: "OK Nick, you're a perfectionist and you admit to being egotistical. But if I spend enough time with you, I'll find some one thing that you are doing wrong. You may be a perfectionist, but as a human being there is no way you can be perfect in everything. Right?"

Nick: "Very seldom am I proven wrong, but (and this is part of that paradoxical side) I accept it. I accept it not from humbleness, but for all the ego and the snobbish way that I seem to do things (and do do them), when I find out I'm wrong I haven't got time to worry about the ramifications, the self and the ego. I don't have time to moan, 'Oh my God, my personality. I've been shown up. I've been put down.' To me that's hogwash.

"To hell with it all. I get right to changing over what I have done wrong by adopting the new and getting right down to whatever it is – be it personality, be it wrestling, be it business. I live by the philosophy, 'He who hesitates is lost.' And this is what happens to people whose egos run their lives. They spend weeks patching up their egos when they find out they are wrong. And they're dumb! They're stupid!

"My attitude is, when you find out you're wrong, change it and get right



The Pile Driver has proved to be the end of many opponents of Mad Dog Vachon, but in this case the Dog was on the recieving end of the manouvers from Tricky Nicky.

on. Keep the thing moving, whatever it is. People who behave this way are successful. They're winners.

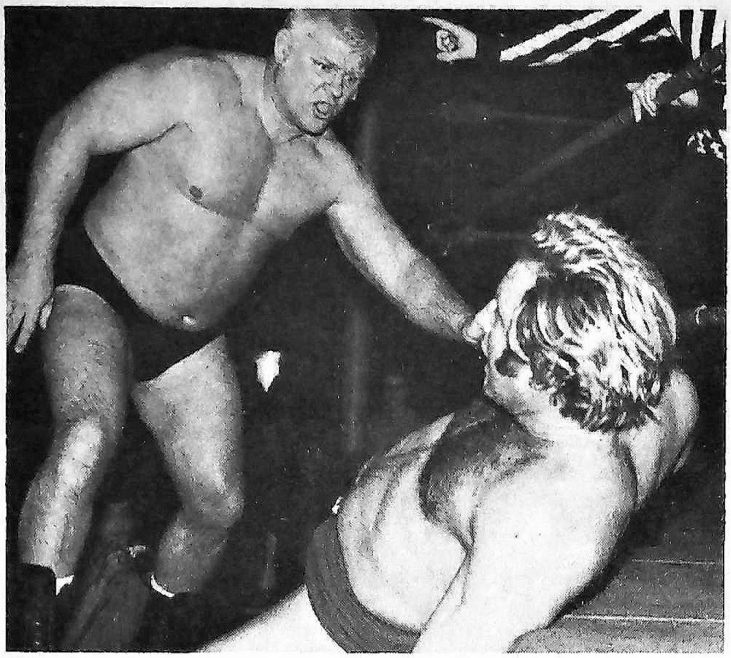
"I can't stand great people who come all unglued when proven wrong, who will take an absurd position and try to fight it when they know they've lost – from an ego point of view. I love these people. I love these big people because, man, you can just eat them up alive. You know, if they can't make the adjustment that quick, they're dead."

Question: "Do you like to do that to people, Nick?"

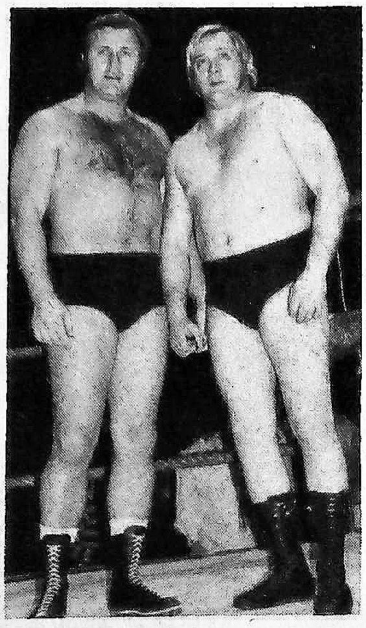
Nick: "To use the great words of Will Rogers, 'I only pick on the big ones.' You see, there" no fun in beating a little person, be the person little mentally, physically, spiritually – whatever it is. You accomplish nothing. If I'm going to be anything I'm going to be a giant killer. And there are so many giants whose egos run their lives. They become very successful people in life – be it in business, religion or sports.

"They put themselves up in a very high psuedo-position because they know they've been successful. And they pump a lot of fluff around what they think has been their success.

"These are the people that I just love to get to. If you can't admit the position that you hold or take a stand on, you've had it with me. Rather than beat you to death with a stick, I'd rather beat you with a powder puff because that's a lot more painful."



The Crusher also gave Nick Bockwinkel a real battle. Here he has Nick in trouble outside the ring. But, the important thing is whose hands were raised in victory at the end of the match.



Bockwinkel and Stevens stand ready in the ring corner. This photo was snapped shortly before they became the A.W.A. World's Tag Team Champions.

Question: "Are you a flexible person? If you have planned something and circumstances work out so that it just can't be, do you pout? Do you become angry?"

Nick: "No, I haven't got time for that. I'll change it right there. This is one of the great things about wrestling because you'll try something in the ring, you'll make a certain move – you'll formulate in your mind your little plan of attack. Then all of a sudden the man will be there a half-second before you. This completely shatters your plans, but you have no time-to pout. You have to move right on. "Again, make that decision. Keep it moving so that when something in life doesn't go the right way you can put it back together. It usually takes me an hour or two if it's a big thing, to rationally put it all back together and, boom, the show keeps moving."

Question: "You hear constantly today about an identity crisis. Are you searching for identity? Or do you know who Nick Bockwinkel is?"

Nick: "I'm not searching for identity. I know who Nick Bockwinkel is. Absolutely!!!

"This is the big thing with people in life. They're always searching for themselves. You hear about people who are 40, 50, 60 years old, searching for their identity.

"I have found Nick Bockwinkel. I like the man he is. He irritates a lot of people, but I don't care.

"I prefer to have him irritate people. I could care less. That is usually because I irritate the little people. And the little people can be some great big people who have little egos or very tender skins. And anybody whom I can irritate easily, to me isn't worth the time of day."

As I sat listening, I really began to get irritated. Somehow, I knocked his cigar out of the ashtray and I watched it roll on the floor.

"Never mind," he said, "throw it away!"

And then he was gone – I wonder if I irritate Nick Bockwinkel?

Next month in the September issue of Wrestling Revue we will publish the second and concluding chapter. Sound of THE SAGA OF NICK BOCKWINKEL AND RAY STEVENS, called "Ray Stevens – Twice The Noise of Sound."

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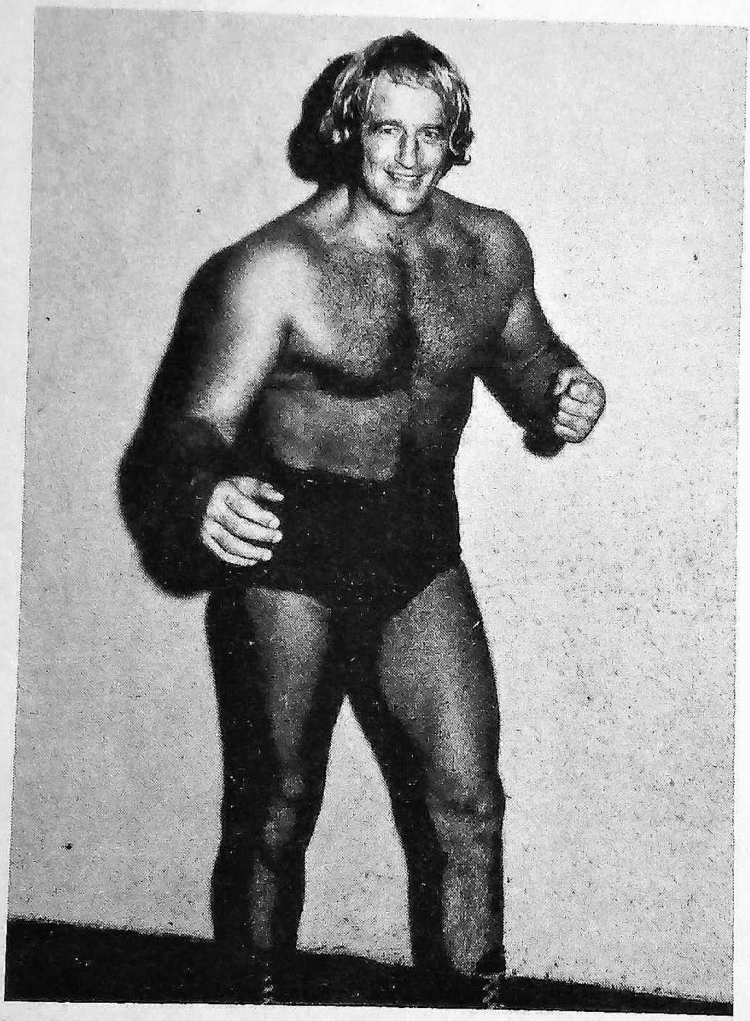


By NORMAN H. KIETZER

I remember Rene Goulet when he first came to the United States. That was more than a decade ago. Rene came here with a fine reputation, having held the European Junior Heavyweight Championship and being a protege of former World's Heavyweight Champion Henri DeGlane, the only Frenchman ever to hold the title. DeGlane, who also trained Edouard Carpentier when he started wrestling, predicted a great future for Rene.

At first Rene was having his doubts about becoming a professional wrestler. He thought perhaps he would rather be a movie star. His home in Nice, France, was near the sight of the Cannes Film Festival. He acted as bodyguard for Brigitte Bardot and as a result got a bit part in the next Bardot movie and several people in the movie business tried to convince him to turn to acting as a profession.

Rene decided to stick with his first love, wrestling, and he has never been sorry. It was Wally Karbo, the powerful A.W.A. promoter in Minneapolis, who first brought Goulet to the United States. Rene was an instant sensation. The A.W.A., which even a decade ago was considered the toughest wrestling circuit in the country and now is called the major

league of professional wrestling, is a tough place for a wrestler to break in, but Goulet became a big and popular star.

In the years that followed Goulet traveled from coast to coast and wrestled in almost all of the major mat centers. At the time I was promoting wrestling in southern Minnesota and whenever possible I signed Goulet to appear on my card because he was not just a great and successful scientific wrestling star, he was also very popular and drew large crowds, including many lady fans, to the matches.

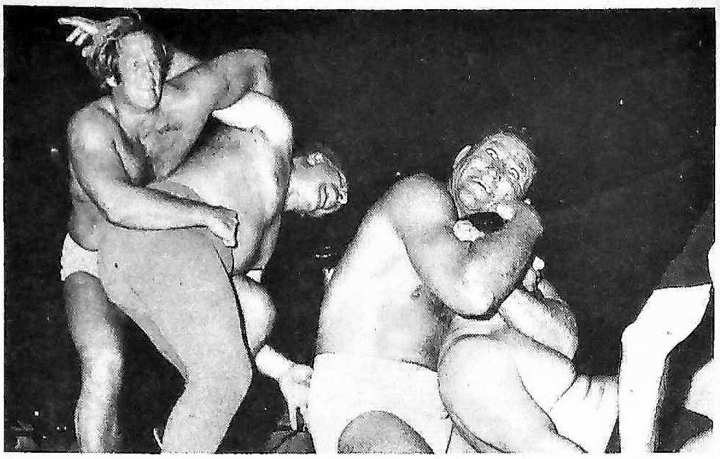
But the major A.W.A. titles eluded Goulet. He finally decided that he was going to wrestle elsewhere for a time and try to gain the experience necessary to win a major title.

I didn't see Goulet for about a year until a trip took me to Oklahoma City where I was the guest of LeRoy McGuirk at one of his great cards. The main event featured Goulet and Billy "Red" Lyons against the team of Jerry Brown and Buddy Roberts and that match was one of the best seen anywhere as Goulet and Lyons came within an inch of taking the United States Tag Team Championship from Blonds Roberts and Brown who held the title at that time, two years ago.

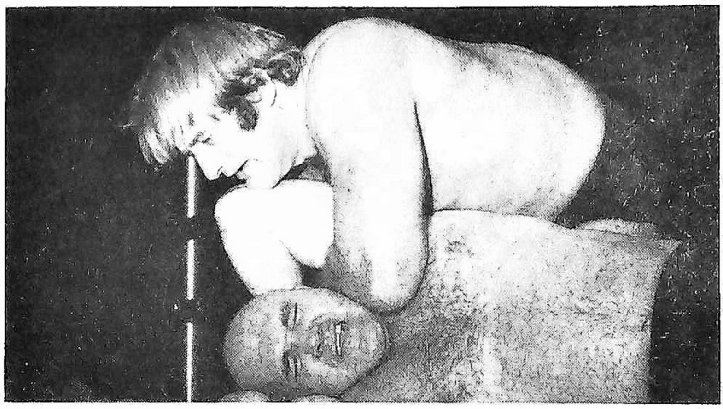
I didn't see Rene for another period of time for over a year until one Saturday afternoon when I attended the matches promoted by Oscar Conill at Sunnyside Garden in New York City. I knew he has just come to this area from Florida where he had done very well, according to the reports I had recieved.

The match had to be one of the best in New York. The promoters here have a strong aversion to matching two top scientific wrestlers because they feel that such a match won't draw well. However, on this card two of the greatest scientific wrestlers were matched when Rene faced Karl Gotch. Since both wrestlers were new in the area, the match was not the main event, but it overshadowed everything else on the card. The two European masters met in a match that will be remembered not for blood and brutality, but for a great exhibition of the best in all-out scientific grappling with speed, moves, and counter-moves that New York fans seldom get a chance to see.

Gotch and Goulet must have admired each other as much as I did the both of them, for they teamed up

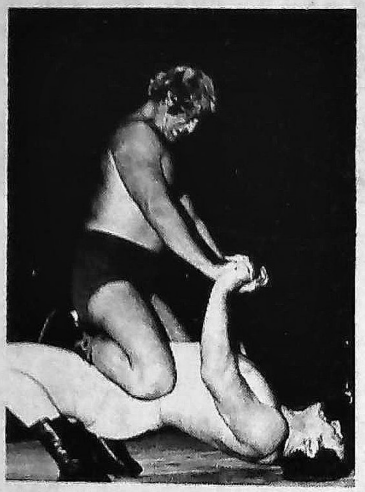


The tag team of Rene Goulet and Danny Hodge was very successful in this match over a year ago in Jackson, Mississippi. They have Aldo Bogni and Chuck Karbo all tied up.



Rene Goulet is really giving it to Karl von Brauner in this shot. The French star and the German star continued the enmity that has exsisted for centuries between their two countries.

Announcer Bob Freed raises the hands of Goulet and Karl Gotch in victory in the Madison Square Garden ring when they held the W.W.W.F. World's Tag Team Championship. Many feel they were robbed of the title and are still the real champions.



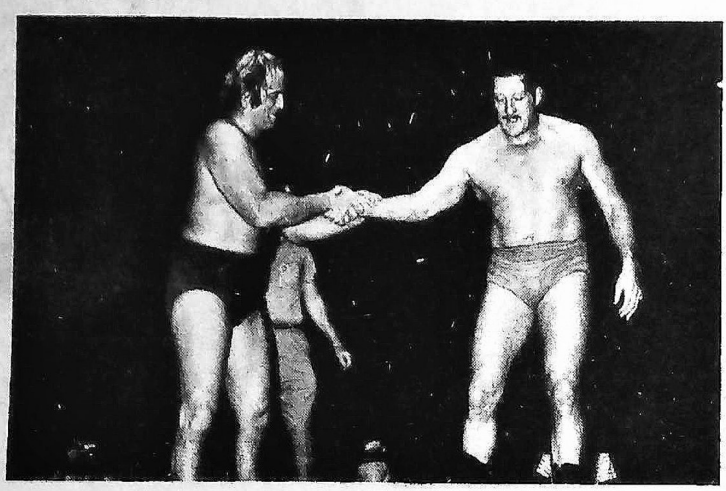
Rene Goulet and Karl Gotch in a classic scientific match that took place in Sunnyside Garden.

to win the W.W.W.F. World's Tag Team Championship from Luke Graham and Tarzan Tyler in Madison Square Garden a few weeks later. They held the title against all competition until losing to Baron Michel Sicluna and King Curtis Iaukea in a decision that still has the fans talking. Goulet and Gotch won the match while the referee was knocked out and then when he came to he gave the title to Scicluna and Curtis.

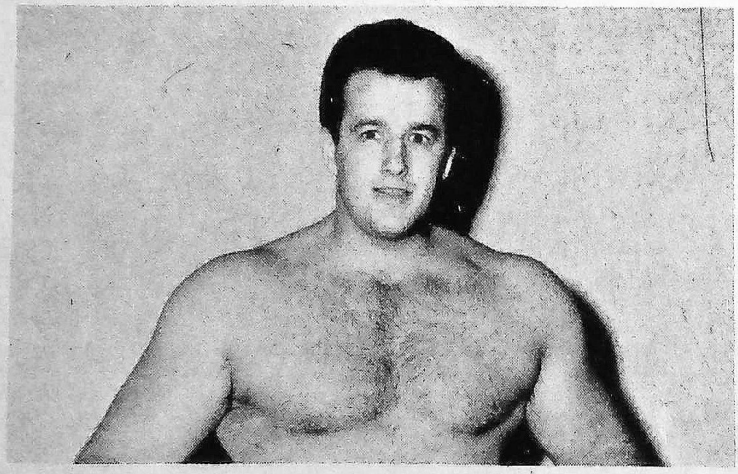
Gotch apparently was so disgusted that he left the area immediately. Goulet followed suit in a few weeks. Rene went to Montreal, where he now makes his home, and proved an outstanding drawing card for the Grand Prix promotions. He also made a tour of Japan and at present Rene is considering offers from several promoters. Whatever area he chooses will be in for some great wrestling.

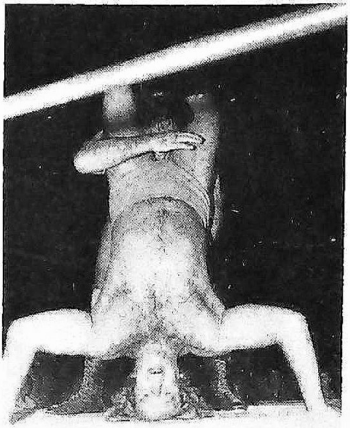
I have crossed paths with the great French star in such places as Minneapolis, Oklahoma City, New York, and Montreal. Where our paths will next meet is a good question, but one thing I know and that is every time I see Rene Goulet in action I will be seeing one of the great stars of professional wrestling today.

I remember Rene as a rookie from Europe, still wet behind the ears. He was a top star then, but now he is even better. He is now approaching his best years. The prime of Mr. Rene Goulet is here.

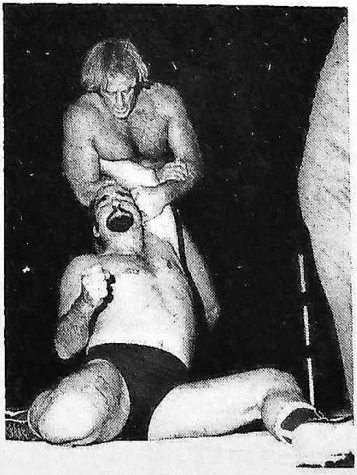


Above: Gotch and Goulet shake hands after the Sunnyside match. Later they formed their championship tag team. Below: The youthful Rene Goulet who came to America a decade ago to win wrestling fame.





Above: Aldo Bogni is about to be flipped to the mat as a result of a well applied head scissors by Goulet. Below: Goulet puts pressure on Sputnik Monroe with a powerful arm bar.



THE BLACK DAHLIA SISTERS

By ERIC HOFFMAN

'Murder Inc – Female Style' would probably be the best, briefest description of Candy and Iris, the Black Dahlia Sisters. As deadly as the name implies, these two amazons of the mat have a unique distinction. They are the first known sister team in wrestling. In the past, the men have had the only sibling teams in the mat world. Such combinations as the Vachons, the Graham Brothers and the Stanlees have left their mark. It remained until now, with the advent of women's demand for equal opportunities and recognition, that the distaff side got their innings.

Both gals are big, strong and utterly ruthless in the ring. Their motto: 'It isn't how you play the game – it's the winning that counts!' And winning, no matter what the tactics, is the name of the game for the Dahlia girls.

Prior to becoming wrestlers, Candy and Iris followed other pursuits. Candy was at one point, a flamenco dancer. Her many hours of dancing helped her develop a pair of legs that can clamp on a scissors hold that many opponents dread. Both girls were athletically inclined. Why did they become wrestlers? "We've always liked to do new things when we get bored. And we were bored with our professions. Then we saw a wrestling match with Mae Weston. When we saw Mae work over an opponent, we decided that this was what we wanted to get into."

The two girls learned of Mildred Burke's training school for prospective lady grapplers and went down to see the world's champ. Mildred saw the possibilities in the two girls at once and they were soon learning the ropes, as it were, before their first match. Their first opponents didn't have a chance and the first taste of victory decided that the rough, tough style of grappling was for the Dahlia girls

Smaller than her sister Iris, Candy is the hot-tempered member of the team, quick to anger at the slightest provoking. Preferring to use rough-house tactics to her considerable knowledge of straight, scientific wrestling, Candy will use every trick in the book (biting, scratching, stomping, kicking, gouging, choking) when she has an opponent where she wants her.

Iris is the more even-tempered of the duo, but, like her sister, prefers to batter a hapless opponent around. Calm of face, Iris will fool an opponent until she unleashes her bag of tricks, often losing her 'cool' and going wild. One victim of such an outburst ended up in the hospital with a busted leg. Even then, Iris had to be restrained by her sister, the referee and another wrestler.

Like other wrestlers, male or female, at least one of the sisters has a favorite hold. Candy puts her powerful legs to good use, preferring to try to get her opponent in a body scissors and put on what she calls 'The Big Squeeze. "I remember when I got one little pipsqueak, Opal Ernst, in the squeeze." Candy recalls with a chuckle. "I felt kind of charitable that night, she was smaller than me, so I tried to take it easy on the kid. But she kept making cracks while she tried to get loose. I got mad and tightened up. Man! She started turning purple trying to get free. Then she scratched my leg. That little cat! I blew my cool and put on the pressure."

Candy started breaking up with laughter at the memory, so Iris stepped into the silence. 'You, know, some of them never learn,' she said, with a smirk on her face. "That Ernst girl has been yelling for a rematch and keeps saying she's going to forget about paying it straight. She thinks she can out-rough my sister. Boy, has she got a lot to learn!"

In their brief career in the mat game, Candy and Iris have cut a considerable trail through battered opponents, together as a team, working with other partners and individually. Some of their battles have been with such girls as Sandy Starr, Princess Perla Nieto and newcomer Jackie West.

But the girls' prime target is Marie Vagnone, the young holder of the World's Championship once held by Mildred Burke. And here is where the edge of competition sets in: each girl wants the belt with the prestige and money that usually goes with it. The possibility of either of the Dahlia sisters holding the belt and then battling the other in their murderous style is enough to chill the blood of any wrestling fan – or excite him at the possibility of one of the roughest brawls in the ring.

Asked of such a possibility, both sisters smiled charmingly, but in a slightly sinister manner. "Well," Candy said slowly," There can only be one champion. We both realize that. It's inevitable that one of us will win that belt." ' "If they don't fix it with some

Murder Incorporated, Female Style

referee to disqualify one of us," Iris added "As far as we're concerned, Vagnone hasn't got a chance in the ring with either of us in a fair match. She'd got that belt – but she has it on borrowed time. As for having to battle each other – well, it doesn't really matter who loses. The championship will still be in the family." But even as they said this, one could see them eyeing each other cautiously.

Big, ruthless, powerful, Candy and Iris, the Black Dahlia sisters, make one of the most formidable tag-team combinations to date, leaving battered and beaten opponents behind them with their philosophy of WIN AT ANY COST!

THE STOMPER

LUMBERJACK DEFEATS COWBOY BILL WATTS FOR BRASS KNUCKS CHAMPIONSHIP

The coveted Brass Knucks Trophy that The Stomper took from Cowboy Bill Watts in a recent match.

NOW HE WANTS THE OTHER TITLE HELD BY WATTS --
THE COVETED NORTH AMERICAN HEAVYWEIGHT CHAMPIONSHIP.

By LIL AL VAVASSEUR

They grow them big and tough in the Northwoods of Canada and one of the most rugged of these hardy individuals is the Stomper.

And no less an adversary than Cowboy Bill Watts, the North American heavyweight champion, can attest to the brute strength and rough and tumble ability of this 6 ft. 5 in. tall, 285-lb. giant. Watts has reason to remember vividly his first meeting with this brute of a man because it was in that match that the Stomper outfought and battered the Oklahoma wrangler into submission to win the Brass Khucks title and trophy.

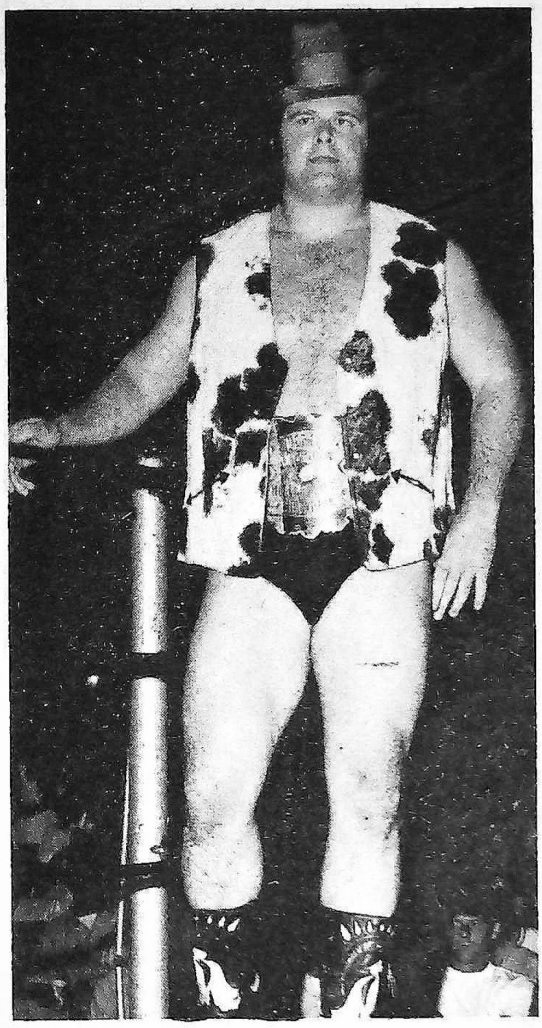
Needless to say, Cowboy Bill is hot under the collar because of his loss to the Canadian battler and is more than anxious to get the Stomper inside the ring again.

Fans will be wanting to know something about the background of the Stomper but he is grudgingly evasive about his past. He admits to having worked as a lumberjack in the forests of Canada. He also admits that he was about the roughest and toughest of all the men in the camps in which he plied his trade. The hardy guys who fell the trees in the Canadian camps are a brawling lot and some believe that there is a good reason for the Stomper's reluctance to talk about his life in the Big Woods. Many think that the huge fellow earned the name of the Stomper because of the manner in which he dispatched some luckless opponent in a battle to the finish in some remote lumber camps. The name of the Stomper has stuck, regardless of how the woodsman earned the title, and it is whispered that he was ordered to leave the lumber camps because of his urge for brawling.

Fans are going to ask, "does the Stomper really stomp and kick an opponent and does he wear the heavy steel cleated logger boots." The answer to both questions is no. He wears regulation grappling attire, footwear and all, and the name of the Stomper has stuck to him even in wrestling because he usually walks right over the top of prostrate opponents.

Cowboy Bill Watts has vowed to get back at The Stomper and regain the Brass Knucks Championship. The Stomper wants Watts in the ring himself, but he wants a match for the North American Heavyweight Championship which Bill still holds.

The lumberjack claims that before he gives Watts a chance to regain the Brass Knucks title Watts should give him a North American title shot. Whatever the rules, lumberjack or regular, knowing the recent activities of The Stomper leads this writer to the conclusion that the match will be an all-out brawl no matter which set of rules the referee is trying to enforce.

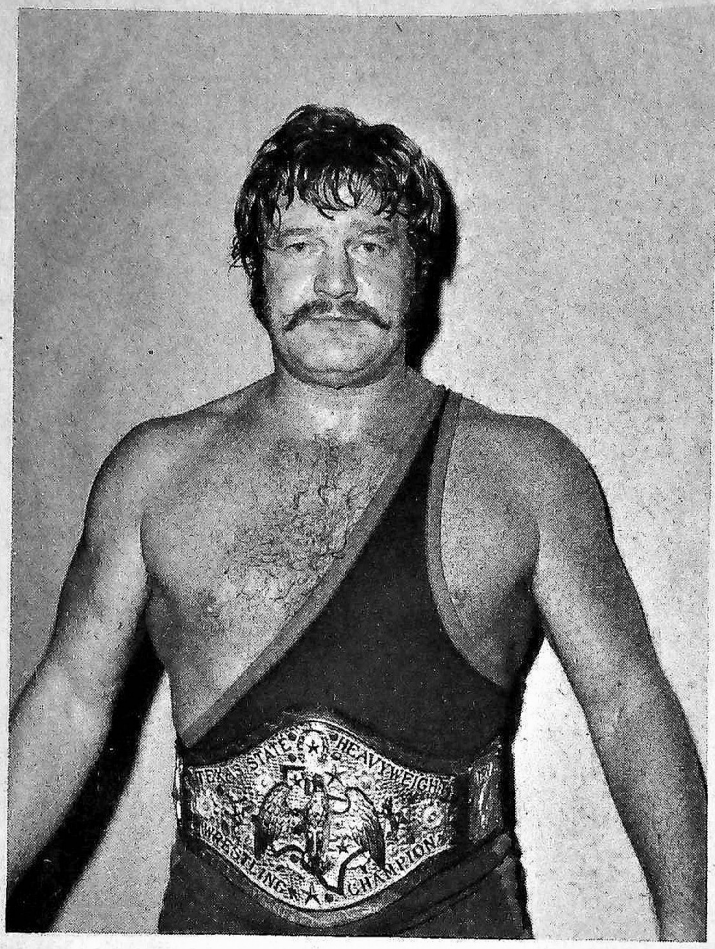


Cowboy Bill Watts still sports the North American Heavyweight Championship belt, but The Stomper has vowed to take that title from Watts also.

The Stomper and Cowboy Bill Watts hate each other with such fury and the fans are so aware of this hatred that whatever promoter is lucky enough to sign these two great stars to go against each other is going to have a packed house.

Cowboy Bill Watts has withstood many top challenges in the process of making the North American Heavyweight Championship the most coveted and most respected regional title in the sport of professional wrestling, but when he is matched against The Stomper, it will be a bout that will really prove which man is really deserving of recognition as holder of that title.

The Stomper put a dent in the shiny armor of Cowboy Bill Watts when he took away the Brass Knucks title and now it is up to Watts to wrestle The Stomper again and take the dent out of the armor.



Red Bastien won the Texas State Heavyweight Championship from Jose Lothario only 30 days after the popular redhead arrived in the Lone Star State.

RED BASTIEN'S
TRIUMPHANT INVASION OF TEXAS

Minnesota Native Overcomes Tragedy And Captures Heavyweight Championship Of Lone Star State!

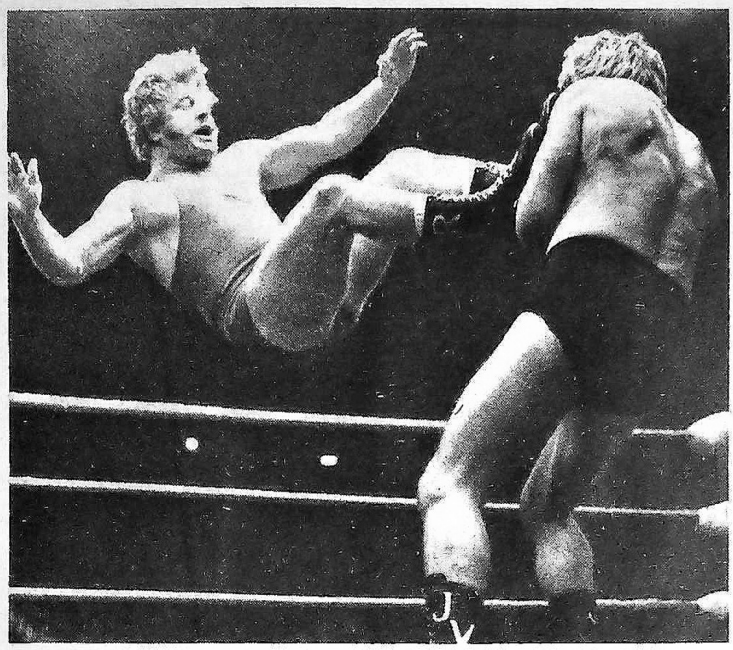
By KEN TAYLOR
Publisher of Lone Star Wrestling

Many internationally – acclaimed wrestlers have tried the tough Texas wrestling circuit in hopes of capturing the state belt and gaining the world-wide attention that it brings. But because the Texas belt is so well respected the titleholder fights hard to keep it. Because of this very few men have made the grade and even fewer have accomplished the task with undefeated credentials.

This conception of Texas wrestling held true until March 8, when a Minnesota native named Red Bastien lifted the state title from Mexico's Jose Lothario in San Antonio. The popular newcomer defeated Lothario, two falls to one, and was the new state champion only 30 days after his arrival.

To win the coveted crown was a feat in itself, but never in recent Texas mat history had a wrestler claimed the title in less than a month. Red's victory over Lothario didn't come as a major surprise or upset, but the quickness of the win in his first title match ever with Lothario surprised a lot of wrestlers and fans.

While everyone else was buzzing over the victory, the popular



Bastien delivers a drop kick to the chest of Johnny Valentine. R.B. and J.V. have one of the most bitter feuds in Texas mat history going at present.

redheaded grappler seemed to be taking it all in stride. "Winning the Texas belt has meant a lot to me," stated Red a few days after his eventful win. "I defeated a very fine wrestler and a gentleman in Jose Lothario I feel fortunate in winning the title and wrestling Jose at that particular time. I felt he wasn't up to the match because he had just lost a World's title match with Dory Funk, Jr. six days earlier in Houston. I can see both sides of the fence, but I'm not taking anything away from myself. . .I beat him fair and square."

Since winning the title, Bastien has given Lothario a rematch in Corpus Christi and Thunderbolt Patterson a chance in Houston. Red out-classed both opponents to prove he was no 30-day wonder.

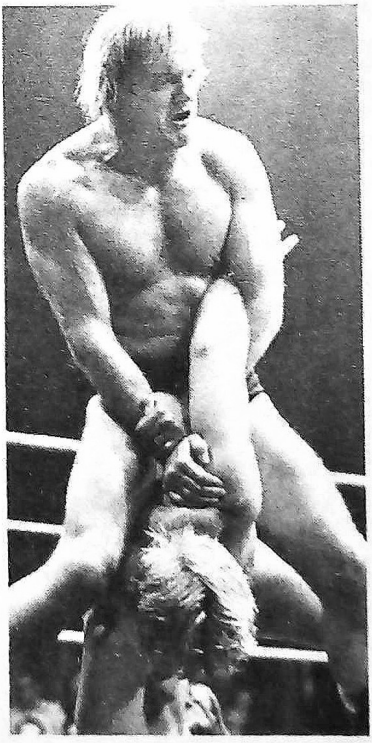
"I plan to give every worthy wrestler a chance at the title," explained Red. "I'm not afraid to chance it against anyone. I can get as rough and rugged as it takes to keep it in my name."

Red rates his Texas title win as one of his greatest wrestling thrills ever. "I'll be quite frank about it," he stated. "I came here with the ambition of winning the Texas title, but I never expected it to happen this fast. Texas is certainly one of the roughest places in the world to wrestle. The competition level is tremendous and the rules are definitely geared towards roughness. I feel this was brought about here because Texas wrestling fans like it rough. And if it's a rough champion they want, I'll give them one."

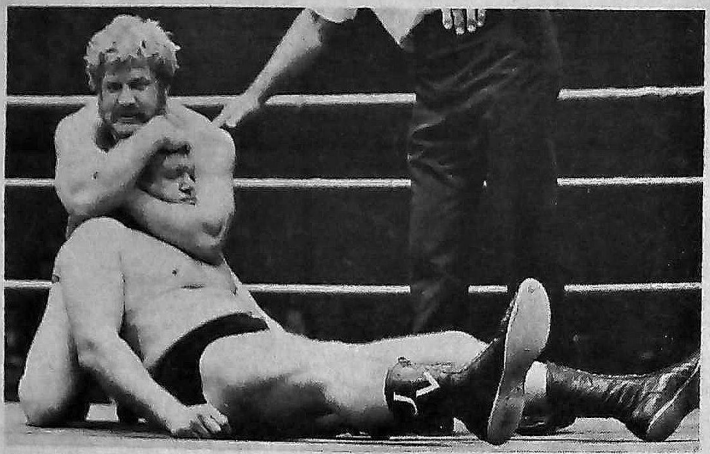
When the acrobatic-minded Minnesota grappler made his first Texas appearance ever on February 7, in Fort Worth, he received the usual fanfare despite his well-publicized credentials as a former two-time World's Tag Team Champion. From this reaction, Red knew he had to prove his mettle in Texas and this he set out to accomplish. On that night's card, he participated in not one, but two matches. His first singles start was against Gypsy Joe Rosario. Four dropkicks and a flying head scissors takedown scored the pin in a brief 22 seconds. Then, only twenty minutes later, Bastien volunteered to replace Cowboy Bob Ellis, who suffered a knee injury from Thunderbolt Patterson, just seconds before a scheduled 60-minute tag team bout. This left Ellis' tag team partner, Dean Ho, to face both men in the main event. Patterson and his partner, Japan's Masa Fuji, took advantage of the situation and ganged up on Ho. Bastien emerged from the dressing room at this time and caught a glimpse of the brutal beating. He immediately sped to the scene to pull Fuji and Patterson off Ho. Thunderbolt hit Bastien as the bell sounded to start the match. Then Red went into his acrobatic dropkicks and flying head scissors to totally surprise both men. Two minutes later, Red had scored both pins in the two out of three falls match. This feat brought an applauding Fort Worth crowd to its feet and thus established Red's popularity among the fans and wrestlers.

Red zipped into a regular main event status in less than a week and lived up to the quick billing with impressive victories. Johnny Valentine, who had been the kingpin of Texas wrestling since 1969, took quick note of Bastien's ability and win streak. "Another do-gooder has arrived," chuckled big Johnny when asked to evaluate newcomer Bastien. "I have given the fans more thrills and big moments and now this guy (Bastien) wins a few and I'm practically ignored. I don't understand it."

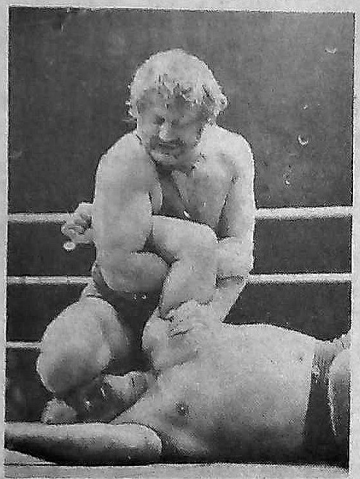
After two weeks, Red challenged

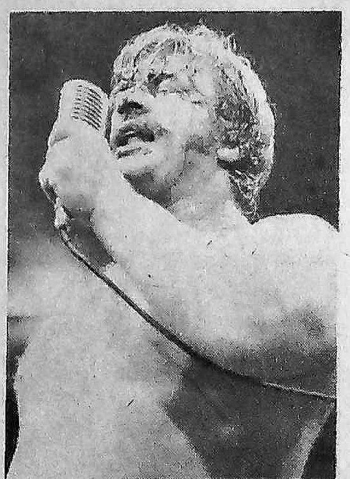


Valentine had Bastien in trouble when this photo was snapped, but in all their matches so far the redhead has come out on top.

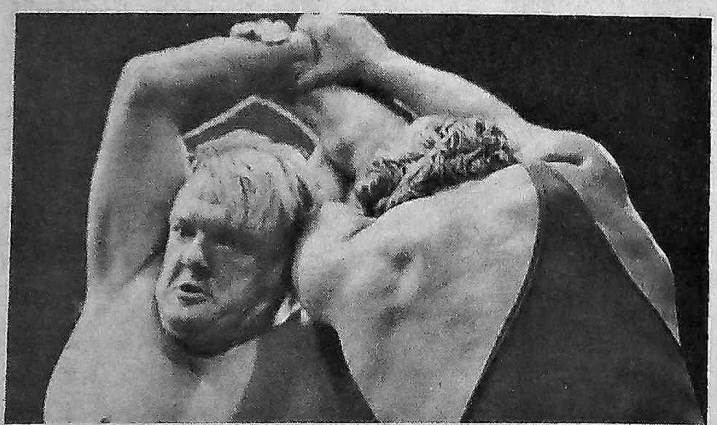


Red Bastien uses the controversial sleeper hold to put out Johnny Valentine and win a fall in one of their matches.





Left: Bastien is called a man of a thousand holds. Here he applies pressure on Valentine with an arm bar. Right: A bloody Red Bastein calls for Valentine to reutrn to the ring after J.V. was disqualified for his actions outside the ring.



Bastien was the winner of this test of strength and continued his mastery over Valentine.

Valentine to a match. "I wanted him because he's the best man here," Red commented. "I respect Valentine because he never backs away from you. I don't like all his methods, but he's not as dirty as the other wrestlers. He doesn't resort to foreign objects, biting or eye gouging to win a match. Valentine is strictly a wrestler's wrestler and he'll beat the hell out of you if you don't watch him like a hawk.

"He's definitely one of the greatest men to ever put on wrestling tights. My philosophy on Valentine is that if in the morning I don't see his name in the obituary section of the paper, I know he'll be there to give me a rough time."

The Bastien-Valentine feud began prior to Red's state title win over Lothario, but it really exploded into a declared war after Bastien won the crown. Valentine felt like a forgotten man despite having owned the very same title five months earlier and for an all-time Texas record of two straight years.

This pairing of wrestling giants was everything one could expect – exciting, rugged and bloody. Many thought Valentine could end Bastien's win streak, but after eight meetings Red led the series with six wins and two double disqualifications. Valentine had not only failed to defeat Bastien, but had two embarrassing losses to live down. One came in Corpus Christi, when Red gave the Seattle Kid his quickest defeat in Texas mat history – two straight falls in loss than two minutes. The other loss came in a Dallas "Texas Death Match" when Valentine challenged Bastien to this anything-goes, no-time limit match. Red had never seen or participated in such a bout, but he won just the same scoring six falls out of eight. Three atomic crops set up the win. Valentine was so despondent with the loss that he elected to let most of the fans leave the arena before heading back to the dressing room.

Although Valentine continues to harass him for rematches and the feud remains the hottest item in Texas, Red is now looking to bigger matches and his primary target is the toughest Texan of them all – World's Champ,

Dory Funk, Jr.

"I have to confess I've only seen Funk one time and that was in Houston recently, but I didn't see him wrestle thatnight," Red remarked. "I hope to get that opportunity soon. . .face to face in the ring.

"I don't limit myself on titles. My ambition is to win the World's title. I've been in this sport a long time and I feel I could make a good champion. I think wrestling, sleep wrestling, and live wrestling."

While waiting for his turn at Dory's title, he has worked hard at keeping his reputation intact with at least two or more wins against Thunderbolt Patterson, Masa Fuji, Johnny Valentine, Terry Funk and The Spoiler, the current holder of the American Heavyweight Title, in non-title pairings.

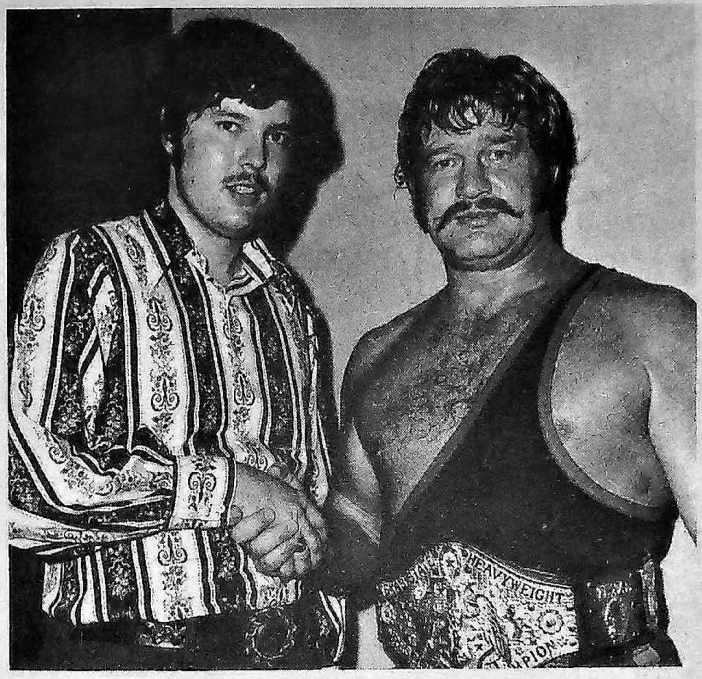
Wahoo McDaniel, the popular Indian-Texan from Midland, was indirectly responsible for Red's migration to Texas. He placed a long distance call from his Dallas apartment to Red's home in Minneapolis suggesting that he come to Texas.

"Red this is a great place (Texas) for a man with your capabilities," stated Wahoo during the 1971 conversation. "You have a different style from the wrestlers we have here now and it could work to your advantage if you came down."

The friendly Indian sold Red on the idea, although Bastien admitted it didn't take much convincing on Wahoo's part. "I actually wanted to come to Texas in 1967," Red recalled. "But negotiations fell through at that time and I stayed in the Midwest and Minnesota."

Now that Red has finally made it to Texas he loves it. "I'm living in Dallas now and it's a great cosmopolitan city," he added. "The weather is fantastic, especially in comparison with Minnesota, and I like the people here very much."

Some Texas fans consider Bastien's success as nothing short of a miracle – not in winning, but being able to wrestle, period. He often has to bear much pain to defeat a rugged opponent. A 1961 back injury incurred against Ray Stevens in a Sacramento, California, main-event



Red Bastien shakes hands in the Fort Worth dressing room with Ken Taylor, author of this story and publisher of the Lone Star Wrestling Newspaper.

Bulldog Danny Plechas raised the hand of Red Bastien in victory as a defeated Johnny Valentine lies on the mat.

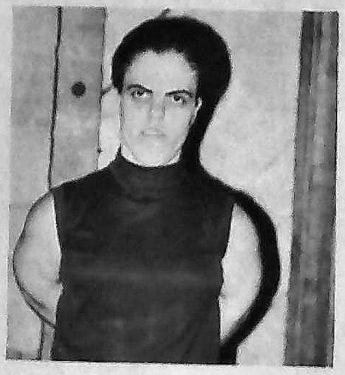
put him out of action for 16 months. He also suffered a serious knee injury in the unfortunate 1971 auto accident that killed his good friend and World's Tag Team partner, Hercules Cortez. "I have never been so close to death," Red recalled. "It's a mystery to me that I'm alive today."

These two injuries come back on him quite often. "I feel it a lot when I try dropkicks and other difficult maneuvers," he said. But Bastien refuses to take anything away from his winning formula.

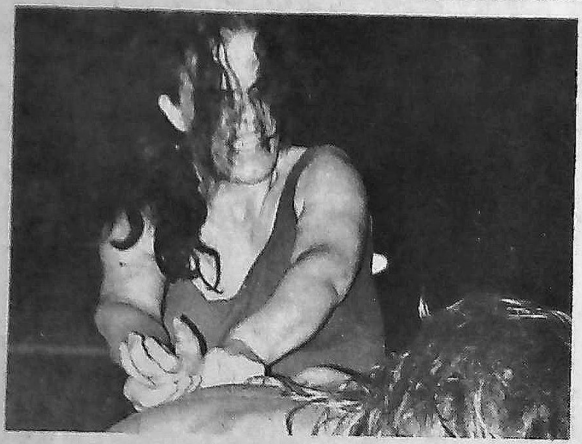
With this type of spunk to go along with an undefeated record, it's easy to see why all of Texas loves and respects Red Bastien. Texas is proud and honored to have Mr. Red as its State Champion.

DIAMOND LIL SHINES AGAIN

Midget Gal Grappler Doing Well!



Right: Lil before her match, poses for the author. Below: Lil uses all of her strength to apply pressure on the hammerlock she holds on Darling Dagmar.



Diamond Lil – one of the top gal midgets in wrestling today.

By GARY BALLARD

Diamond Lil entered into existence as the title and principal character of a Broadway play in 1928, starring, as well as written, produced, and staged by Mae West. Lil, of course, quickly became the prototype of glamour girls and socialites everywhere. She was Mae West's favorite characterization, her diamond-encrusted but downy-pleasant personality drawing stacks upon stacks of fan mail addressed not to Miss West but to Diamond Lil.

Now, some forty years after that initial appearance, another saucy little number answering to the same moniker is making the rounds. Although she sports diamonds and dresses fashionably, most people never see the present Diamond Lil's splendor except in a pair of wrestling tights. There, however, this bouncy beauty exhibits enough mettle to put a thousand diamonds to shame. Her graceful antics confound opponents and excite fans, and her black, penetrating eyes waft a mysterious spell over those around her.

This little Lil came out of Richmond, Virginia, about nine years ago to explore the possibilities of a wrestling career. She hit it lucky by acquiring a splendid instructor in ladies champion, The Fabulous Moolah.

"I wore a lot of diamonds," Lil told me about her ring name. "Moolah picked it up from there!"

Lil always seems to explain matters in the briefest and simplest possible way, as if a long-winded discussion represents some sort of curse. When questioned about any nervous feelings in her first professional match, she replied, "One night I just walked out and that's it! It didn't bother me one bit."

"Where was this first match held?"

"In Columbia, South Carolina," she answered.

"In what other locations have you appeared in the past nine years?"

"Everywhere."

Interviewing Lil resembles baby-sitting a day nursery while simultaneously skywriting in a helicopter! Just imagine you alone were piloting a whirlybird, striving to stay aloft and release your smoke stream in the proper configurations, at the same time keeping one wary eye on little things like the temperature and fuel gauges, plus pinning on a couple of diapers with your spare hand; and you will have some idea of how the brain functions when trying to elicit a detailed response from Diamond Lil, who never speaks more than bare necessity dictates but whose haunting dark eyes constantly interrupt the strictest trains of thought. . .But back to business! Her concise answer certainly reveals the truth, for this mighty mite has appeared everywhere – every state in the union, Canada, Mexico, Australia, even Japan, which not many U.S. males can claim.

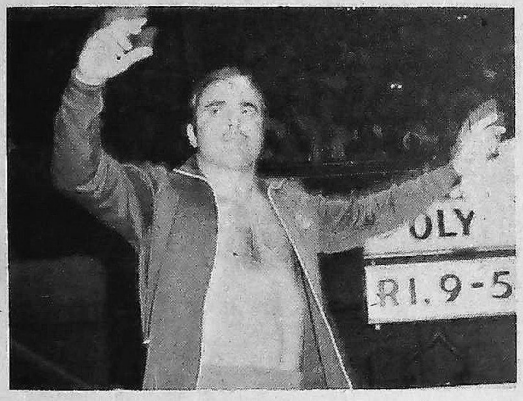
"Which place did you like best?"

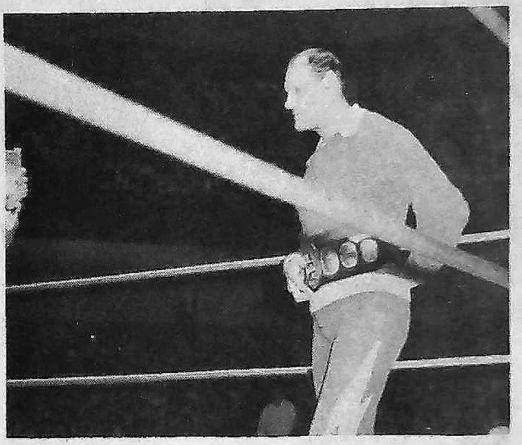
"Hawaii."

(Continued On Page 61)

THE GREEK THAT STOPPED THE KILLER

JOHN TOLOS TANGLES WITH WLADEK KOWALSKI IN CALIFORNIA





For once John Tolos was the hero of the crowd in the Olympic Auditorium when he was signed to face Killer Kowalski. Fred Blassie was in John's corner on crutches.

By JEFF WALTON
Photos By STEVE GUIERMAND

Sweat poured off the brow of John Tolos as he looked directly into the TV camera and demanded that the viewing audience watch and listen to him. This was Tolos' first appearance since being injured in a Battle Royal. Olympic Auditorium wrestling promoter Mike LeBell had signed "The Golden Greek" to meet the Americas' Champion, Killer Kowalski. Needless to say, Kowalski was walking over all opponents. He crippled Cowboy Frankie Laine and tore apart Rocky "Soul Man" Johnson. His only loss was by disqualification to Bruno Sammartino. Kowalski hit the referee in what many fans are saying was a last-ditch effort to save his Americas' belt.

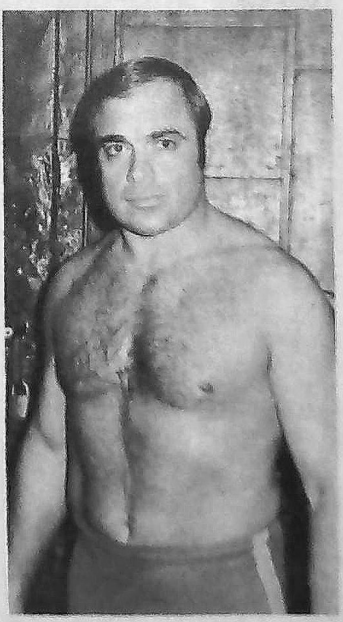
Now it was Tolos' turn to get a crack at the belt he once wore. Of the two wrestlers, John Tolos was the man of the hour. Fans cheered the Greek all along the West Coast.

The night of the big event fans were lined up for blocks, waiting to get into the old Olympic Auditorium in downtown L.A. I looked out of my office window on the second floor of the Olympic and saw traffic cops trying to untangle traffic going every which way. As the building filled up I made my way downstairs and pushed through the crowd until I got to the dressing room, where I first saw a deeply concerned Killer Kowalski. Before a match you never bother The Killer. He stays in top condition by being a vegetarian and working out almost all the time. The Killer is always serious. While other wrestlers joke around, Kowalski sits in a corner by himself in deep mental concentration.

On the other side of the dressing rooms John Tolos sat, lacing his boots. He looked up at me and smiled for a moment. "You know, the last time you were in here I nearly belted you," the Golden Greek said jokingly. "Tonight, the world is mine so ask questions all you want."

I only had one question. "Do you think you can regain the championship? Tolos got to his feet,

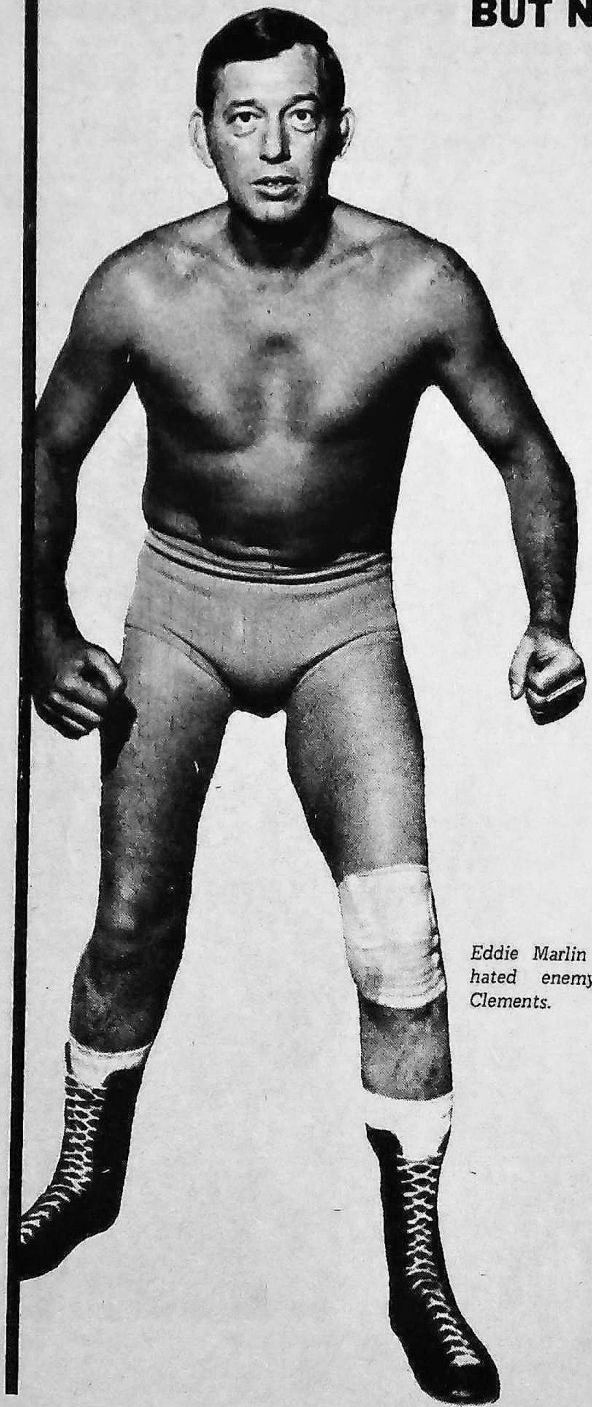
(Continued On Page 62)



The "new" John Tolos is now a popular hero in California.

EDDIE MARLIN

IN NASHVILLE THE FANS LOVE HIM, BUT NOT SIR CLEMENTS!



Eddie Marlin (left) and his hated enemy (right) Sir Clements.

By CHARLENE DURNIL

Instant wrestler – that's Eddie Marlin. He started wrestling seven years ago. It was like this: He received a phone call asking if he would help out a friend and be a substitute on the local wrestling card. Eddie said, "Sure," and a wrestling career is born.

Eddie, who was born and raised in Nashville, Tenn., lost that first pro wrestling match, but the sport got into his blood. Since then he's wrestled almost every night and he's won most of his matches.

In addition to wrestling, Eddie holds down a full-time job and devotes

Tojo Yamamoto is one of Eddie Marlin's favorite tag team partners.

Clements had said that if he lost he would have his head shaved. The first fall was full of action. Sir Clements was using ever one of his dirty tricks, but nevertheless, Eddie was able to take the first fall.

In the second fall, the dirty tactics of Sir Clements started to pay off. He was able to take the fall, and now the match was all tied up.

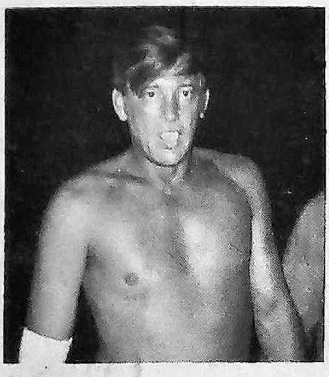
In the third and deciding fall, Sir Clements got even rougher. He stopped at nothing, obviously worried about keeping his hair. After battering Eddie all around the ring, Sir Clements threw him over the top rope, and when Eddie landed he suffered a shoulder separation. However, he was able to make his way back into the ring and gave Sir Clements the beating he so richly deserved.

Sir Clements tried his darndest to squirm out of having his head shaved, but there was no way Eddie was going to let this happen.

Three months later, in one of Eddie's first matches after recovering from his injuries, he forced Sir Clements into a grudge match. To say the least, this was no ordinary encounter. When it was done, Eddie walked off, leaving Sir Clements whimpering like a wounded puppy.

Since then, Sir Clements has never been able to beat Eddie, no matter what he tries.

You can write to Eddie Marlin's fan club at 5517 Rustic Way, Louisville, Ky. 40218 if you'd like more information on this great young star.



Marlin is always ready for action in the wrestling ring, and the fans love his popular style.

time to his hobby of raising quarter horses.

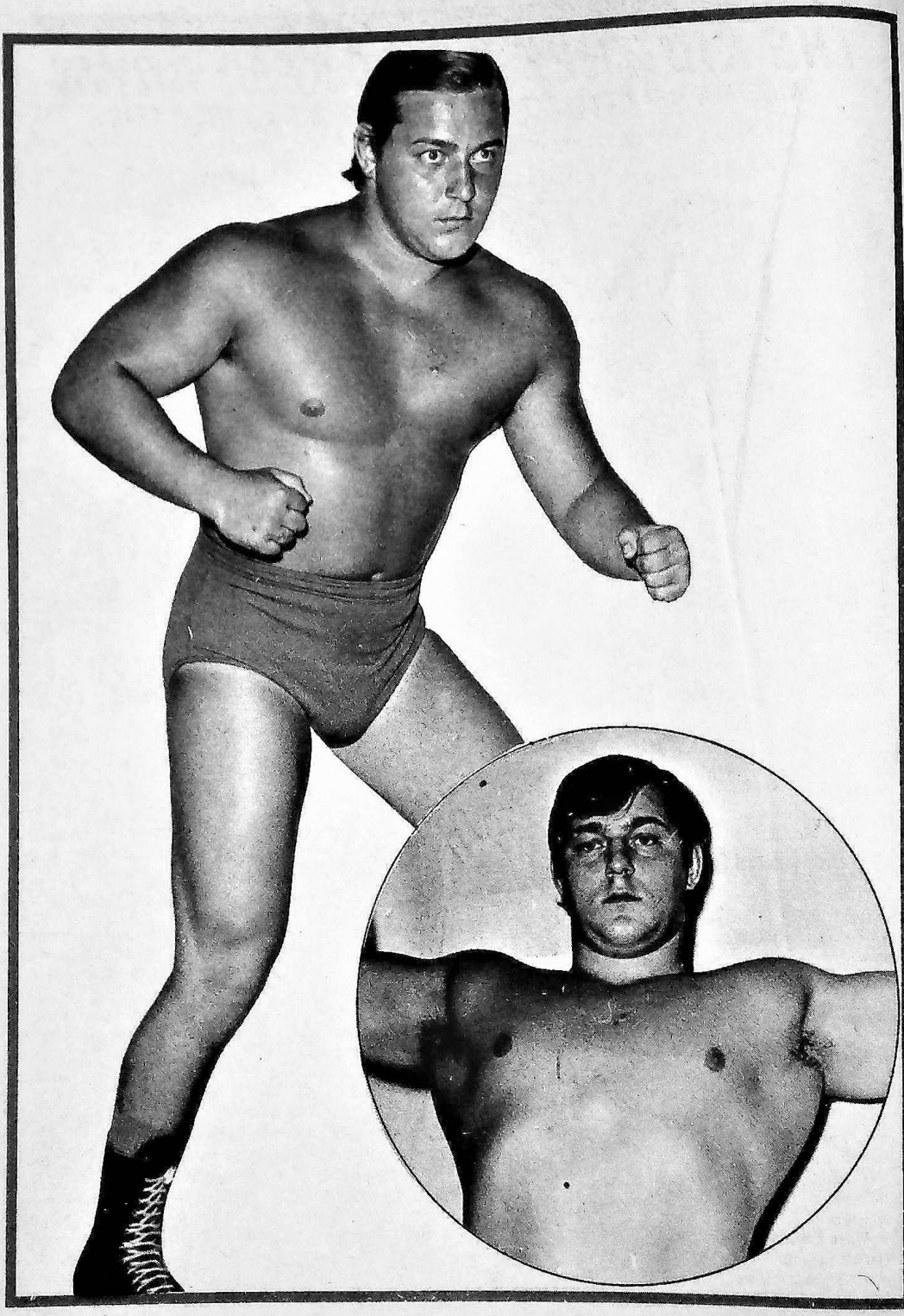
Although he's wrestled plenty as a single, he prefers tag team wrestling. He tags with top names in the South such as "The Fabulous One" Jackie Fargo, Tojo Yamamoto, Jerry Jarrett, and Robert Fuller.

"Wrestling along with men like these and wrestling every night is the best way to pick up experience," he says. "I guess you'd have to say I live wrestling all the time."

Eddie and Jackie Fargo now hold the record for the fastest pin for a tag team match in Kentucky: a mere 38 seconds!

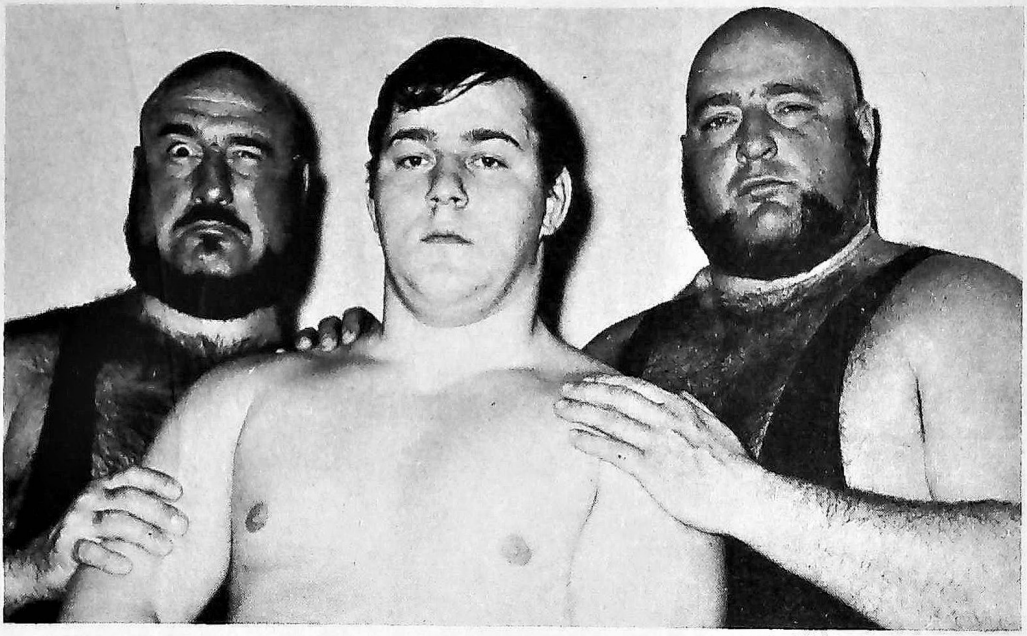
One of Eddie Marlin's matches that really had the Nashville fans buzzing was his clash with Sir Clements. Sir

Two other good friends of Eddie Marlin are Jackie Fargo and Jerry Jarrett. They have both partnered with Marlin many times and the three sometimes get together in six man tag team battles.



THE KID THEY CAN'T KEEP DOWN

NINETEEN YEAR OLD PAT O'BRIEN LOOKS LIKE A FUTURE STAR.



Pat O'Brien is flanked by two other Montreal natives, Maurice and Paul Vachon. Even though he rejects their style, Pat admires the success of the Mad Dog and the Butcher.

By NORMAN H. KIETZER

When I asked Pat O'Brien what the word wrestling means to him, he replied:

"Wrestling is my life! Does that answer your question?"

To be frank, the answer didn't exactly satisify me, because Pat is only 19 years old, but after I finished talking with Pat I realized why wrestling means so much for him.

Let's start at the beginning. Pat's father started wrestling at the age of 14. Presently he is 42 and he is still wrestling.

Pat was practically born in a wrestling ring. At the age of two he started to go everywhere on wrestling tours with his father and as he grew the only thing he had in mind was wrestling.

When Pat reached the age of 12 he started to learn amateur wrestling, and at 14 he began lifting weights to build up his muscles.

At that time, Pat weighed only 145 pounds. One year later he was up to 185 and at 16 he reached 200 pounds and he had won the Quebec Open class heavyweight power lifting championship. He bench-pressed 315 pounds, did a 440-pound squat and 500 pound deadlift. Not bad for a 16-year-old kid.

At the age of 18 he won the Quebec and Canadian heavyweight wrestling championship and as a weight lifter he hoisted his bench press to 455 pounds.

For a year now Pat has been a professional wrestler and he is very happy. He already has faced some of the top men, men like Mad Dog Vachon, Ivan Koloff, Gene Kiniski, Crusher Stan Stasiak, Wolfman Gorky, Mad Dog Mayne, Sweet Daddy Siki, Johnny Boyd, Tough Tony Borne, Len Shelley and Mike Webster.

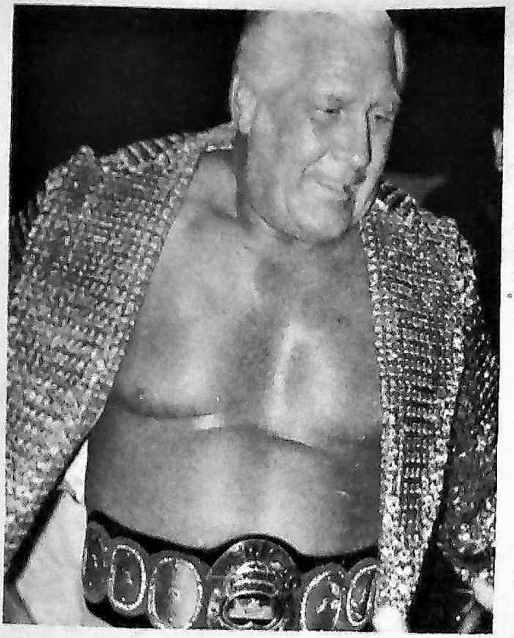
Pat's idols are Verne Gagne, Edouard Carpentier and Mad Dog Vachon.

I asked Pat how he could idolize somebody like Vachon whose style is completely the opposite of his.

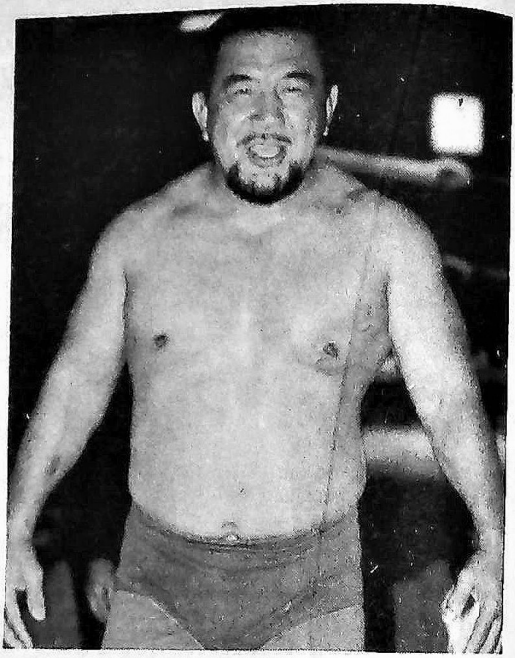
"Yes, I know," Pat said. "But if you take off all his dirty tactics you'll realize that Vachon is a complete wrestler. Vachon is Canadian like I am, and he is one of the few men now wrestling pro who represented Canada in the Olympic games back when he was an amateur. He was only 19 at the time.

"Vachon might be mean and dirty, that I don't approve. But he may be doing it out of frustration and hurts early in his career. This I believe."

Presently, Pat is a solid 220 pounds. He is not yet a champion, but he is on his way, and I wish him the best of luck. With his talent and the right breaks, he can go all the way. One thing for sure. . .he has the will to win, without which all the talent and courage and luck aren't worth much.



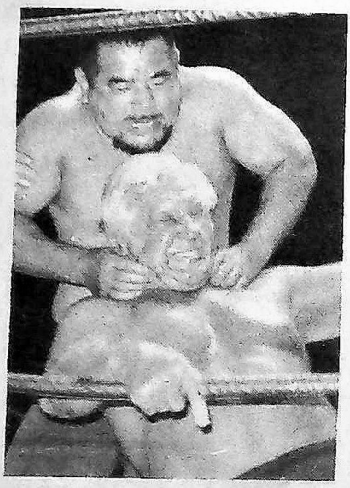
Fred Blassie held the coveted America's title and belt at the beginning of the evening.



Kenji Shibuya was his crafty challenger, and the oriental grappler approached the match with all the cunning he has accumulated in his years of wrestling.

THE S.A.L.T. TALKS

KENJI SHIBUYA AND FRED BLASSIE TANGLE IN CALIFORNIA



Blassie struggles to the ropes in order to get Shibuya to break the oriental nerve hold that Kenji applies on Fred's neck.

By DAN WESTBROOK

Anytime Fred Blassie and Kenji Shibuya are in the same ring at the same time, there's bound to be trouble. Shibuya, the former United States Champion, has no love for Blassie. As a matter of fact, Kenji seems to hate almost all Americans. Shibuya had a similar vendetta going with Ray (Bombs Away) Stevens in San Fransisco a while back. So it was only natural that Kenji should hold the same grudge for another blond villian, Fred Blassie.

This time Kenji was after the Americas Championship, held by Blassie. Shibuya is a little egotistical when it comes to wrestling. He believes that all Japanese wrestlers are superior to Americans. When Blassie heard about this, he was a little riled, to say the least. Blassie, who had just recently turned over a new leaf, wouldn't allow a man like Shibuya mouthing off like that about American wrestlers.

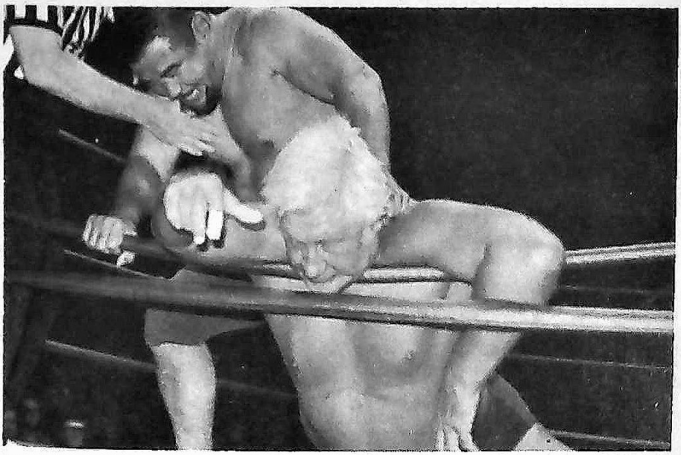
Blassie had many things to stick up for. His pride, his reputation, and his Americas wrestling Title. Although Blassie had turned scientific, he still wrestled with his old style, the "Fred Blassie style." Going against a guy like Shibuya, Fred didn't think the fans would mind a little gouging, a little biting, and a little fouling. It was Blassie who wrote the book on how to hurt another pro wrestler. It was Blassie who was voted "King of the Villians." Fred explained to the fans that Shibuya had a lot of moxie and was a real veteran, but he wasn't about to hand over his title on a silver platter.

The scene was set. . .the Olympic Auditorium in downtown Los Angeles. The Americas Championship was on the line. It was evident that Blassie was coming down the aisle because the whole house was cheering. The boos were in order when crafty Kenji Shibuya made his way down the aisle. He was smiling! Shibuya wanted everyone to know that he was ready for Blassie. And he was.

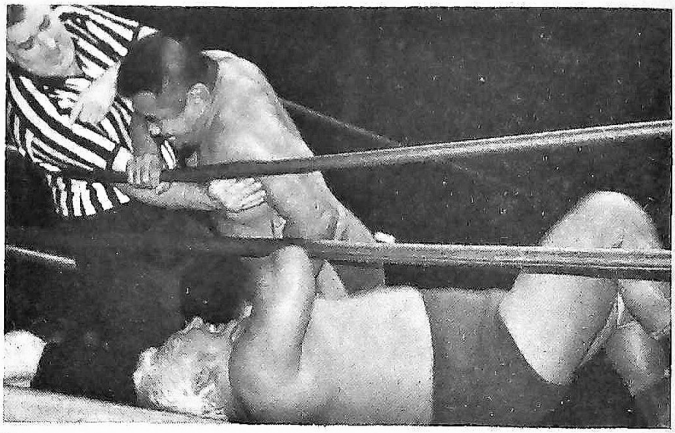
Kenji grabbed Blassie and started throwing judo chops. Blassie was now rubber-legged. Kenji threw Blassie into the ropes and when he came off, a vicious judo chop laid him down in his tracks. Shibuya applied the pin to win the first fall. Blassie was out cold during the rest period. The fans were shocked to see Blassie so helpless so soon in the bout. When the bell rang for the start of the second fall, Blassie waited for Shibuya to approach him. When Shibuya did, Blassie kicked him in the head. Then, Fred took Shibuya by the neck and gave him two reverse-spinning neck-breakers to win the second fall and even things up.

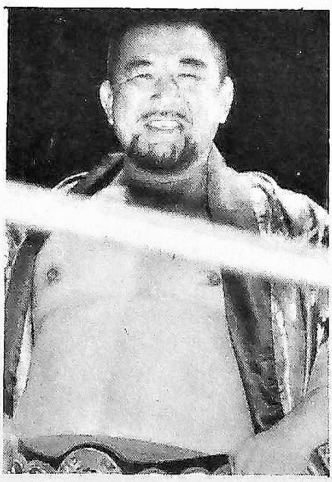
All of a sudden, Shibuya's cousin, Massa Saito, appeared at ringside. Now Blassie had to keep his eye on both of them. When Shibuya was in trouble in the third fall, he would crawl over to Saito for advice. At one point, it seemed Saito had given Shibuya something to put in his tights. When Blassie figured out that something was wrong, he threw Shibuya across the ring, and on the way, the referee was accidently knocked out. Shibuya got up and tossed some concealed salt in his tights into Blassie's eyes. Needless to say, Blassie was rendered helpless again. Shibuya applied a body press and the referee recovered, only to see that Shibuya was pinning Blassie. As the referee raised Shibuya's hand in victory the fans went wild. To stoop to something so low. . .and win a title for doing so! Yes, Shibuya had it all planned out. After the bout Kenji commented, "You see, this bleached-blond didn't have a chance!"

Shibuya held the Americas Title for two weeks. Blassie won the return match when Shibuya's cousin, Saito, was placed in a small cage hovering above the ring. It's been a long while since Shibuya has used his salt. I wonder why.

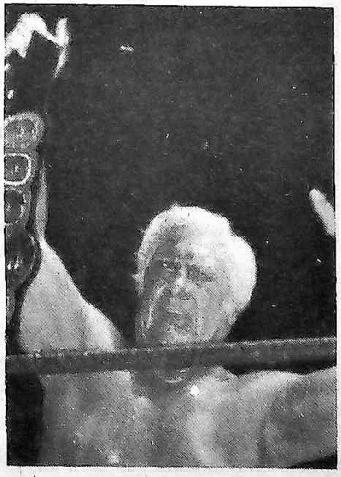


One of the most potent manouvers of the Japanese star was a choke hold. He used the ropes (above) and his own hands (below) to apply it.

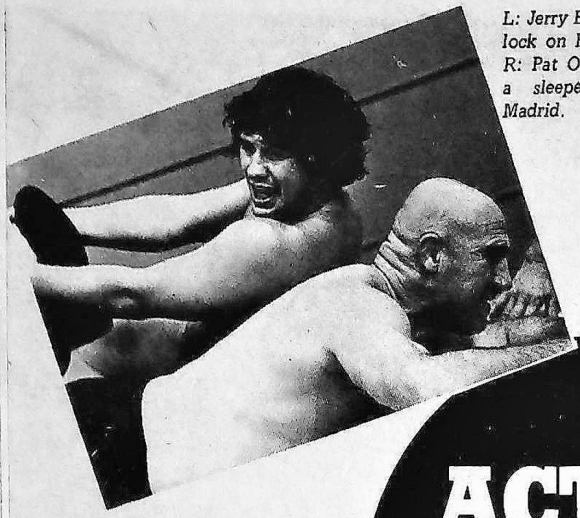




At the end of the night Kenji Shibuya was the holder of the America's title.



Two weeks later a bloody Blassie had regained the belt in the Los Angeles ring.



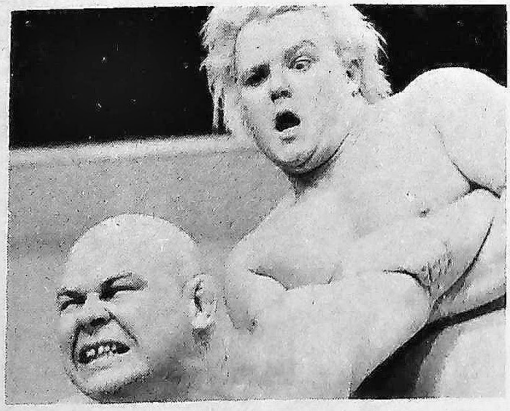
L: Jerry Brisco has a leg lock on Hans Schmidt, R: Pat O'Connor using a sleeper on Gene Madrid.

ACTION IN ST. LOUIS

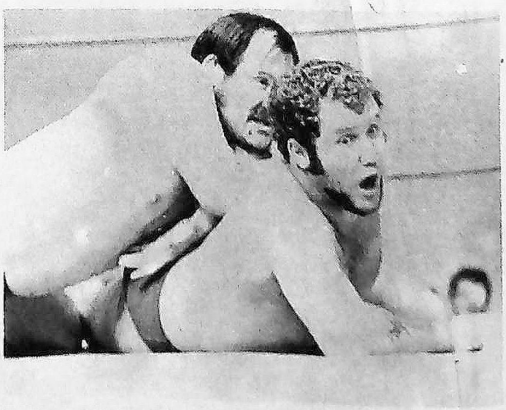
John Tocco Graduates From Fans Candid Corner

For several years now, John Tocco has been submitting photos to our Fans' Candid Corner contest and winning more often than anyone else. We finally decided that John had graduated to bigger and better things.

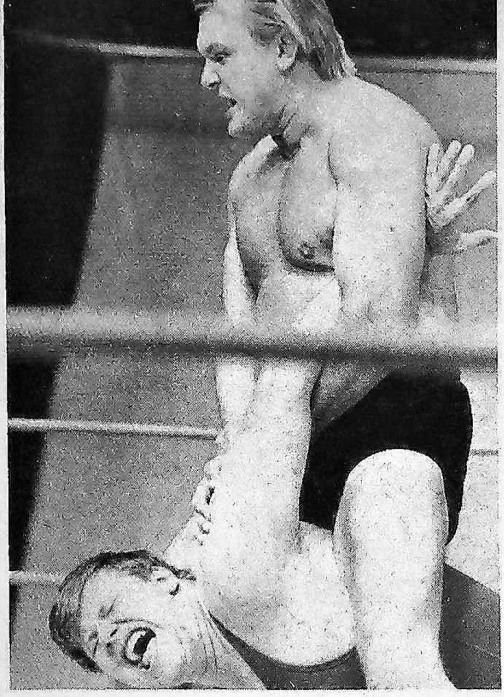
We want to continue to present the great photos of John Tocco in the pages of Wrestling Revue, but from now on it will be in the form of action features, of which this is the first.



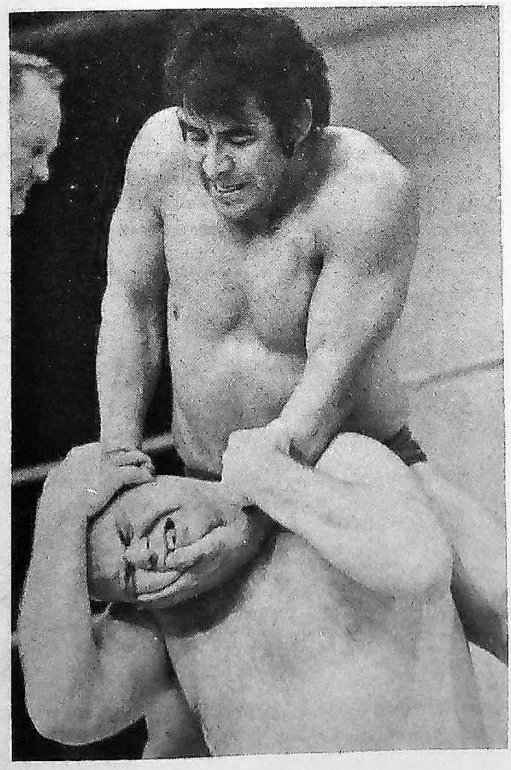
Greg Valentine puts a lot of pressure on the arm of Baron von Rasckke

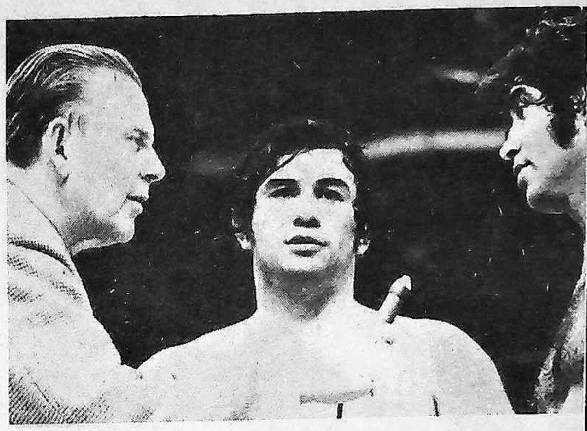


Handsome Harley Race tries to squirm out of an arm lock held by Pat O'Connor.

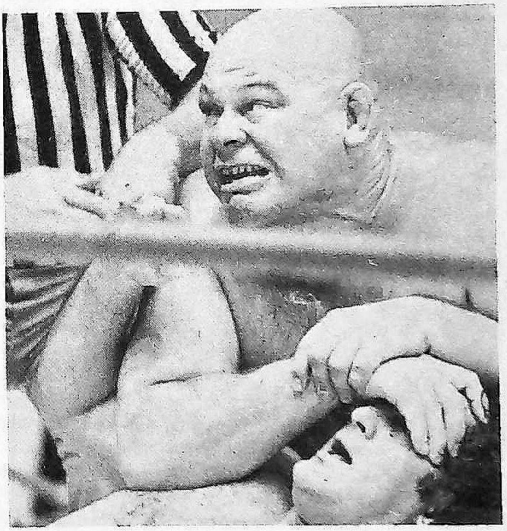


Above: Johnny Valentine has Don Drummer screaming in pain. Below: Luis Martinez tries to unscrew the head of Baron von Raschke.

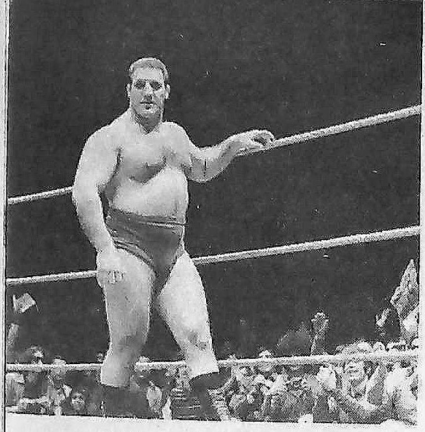




The Brisco Brothers, Jerry and Jack, being interviewed by television announcer George Able.



Above: Baron von Raschke sports an evil snarl as he applies his dreaded face claw on Steve Bolus. Below: John Tolos uses a choke hold to subdue Dale Mann.

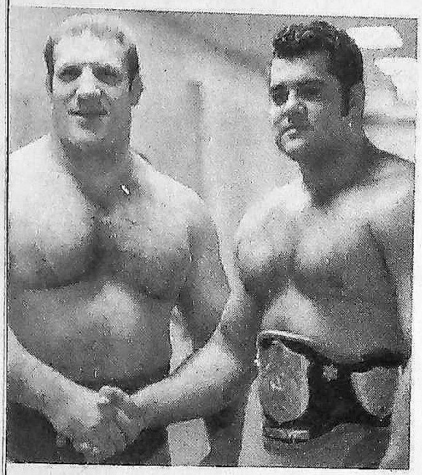


Bruno received a standing ovation upon entering the Madison Square Garden ring.

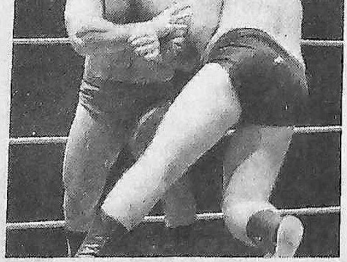
BRUNO RETURNS HOME

Was This His Last Appearance In Madison Square Garden?

By GEORGE NAPOLITANO



Former W.W.W.F. champ Sammartino shakes hands with current titleholder Pedro Morales. Will the two ever be matched?



Bruno comes off the ropes to knock down Smasher Sloan.

Bruno Sammartino, unquestionably one of the most popular wrestlers ever to appear in a wrestling ring anywhere in the world, recently returned to Madison Square Garden, the place of his early rise to fame.

Bruno's return to the Garden had been eagerly awaited by his many fans for over six months and those who were present to witness this historic event did not return home disappointed. Sammartino displayed the same form that had kept him on top for eight long years as champion of the W.W.W.F. until his defeat by Ivan Koloff in what is generally refered to as the "Upset of the Decade."

After his loss to Koloff, Sammartino went into semi-retirement, wrestling only occasionally in and around Pittsburgh, his hometown. Many people from across the country felt disappointed that they would be deprived of ever seeing the great Sammartino wrestle.

After awhile, Bruno's sparse appearances started to pick up a little more and Bruno was wrestling about once every week or two. It seemed as if the old bug was starting to bite again.

One night in Pittsburgh, not long after Ivan Koloff had lost the W.W.W.F. title to Pedro Morales, Sammartino faced the tough Russian in what was one of the best bouts ever held in the Steel City. Bruno was determined to avenge his loss to Koloff.

During the course of the match, Bruno, after being on the receiving end of one too many illegal tactics, lifted up the big Russian and tossed him into the third row of the spectators. After this incident, Koloff was admitted to the hospital where he stayed for three months recovering from multiple fractures and several broken ribs sustained during the match.

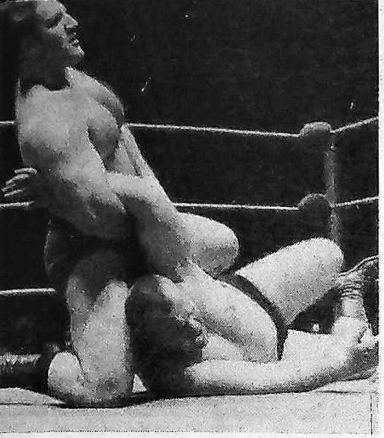
Sammartino started to appear a little more regularly in and around the Pittsburgh area but Bruno was still reluctant to leave his family for any long period of time.

After much persuasion by promoter Vince McMahon, Bruno finally agreed to appear at the Garden last summer. However, his match only lasted 68 seconds, against Black Jack Mulligan. His fans were only able to catch a short glimpse of their idol. Happy over the warm reception he received, Bruno agreed to return to the Garden in the near future.

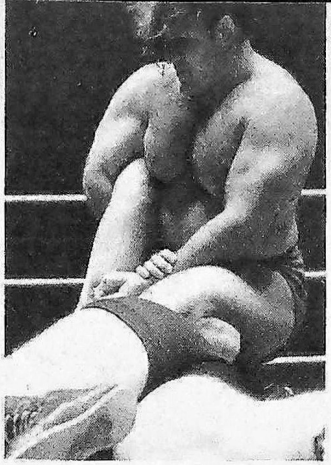
At the beginning of this year, however, Sammartino embarked on a tour of Japan and the Orient and his reception there was overwhelming. Upon the completion of this tour, Bruno went to Los Angeles where he easily won a twenty-two man battle royal. Some of the participants in this battle included Ripper Collins, Massa Sieto, Cowboy Frankie Lane, Mascaras, Rocky Johnson, Haystacks Calhoun and many other top stars of the West Coast. Besides Los Angeles, Bruno also wrestled in Las Vegas, Detroit and several other N.W.A. cities, picking up victory after victory.

As Bruno continued to wrestle throughout the country, the fans in New York kept clamoring for his return and their wish finally came true. When the news of Sammartino's expected return was announced, many of his faithful fans planned a gala homecoming for the former champ complete with cake, streamers and confetti.

On the night of the match, Sammartino looked extremely happy, well rested, and in excellent shape. Bruno joked with all of his old friends



Bruno, in command throughout the match, applies an arm lock on Sloan.



Though he annihilated Smasher, a title match that Bruno wants with Morales, has not been forthcoming.

Bruno waves Italian and American flags after the victory. Will he return again to the garden after repeatedly being refused a match with Pedro?

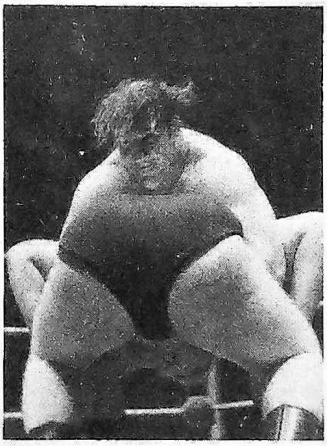
and then remarked, "It seems as if I haven't been here in so long. It's great to be back home."

The excitement was building more and more. The fans were becoming restless awaiting Bruno's entry into the ring. As soon as Bruno emerged from the dressing room he was greeted by a standing ovation. Many of his faithful followers, tossed streamers and confetti at the popular Italian and many a sign proclaiming Bruno Is The Greatest" was evident in the huge arena.

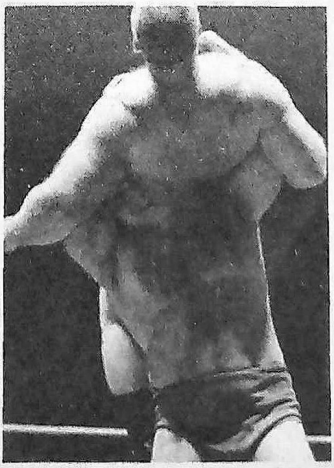
When Bruno entered the ring accompanied by his manager and second, Arnold Skaaland, the cheers became so loud that it sounded as if the roof of the big arena was going to fly off! Bruno waved happily to all of his many well-wishers and then proceeded to center ring to receive the referee's instructions. His opponent, Smasher Sloan, accompanied by his advisor, the Grand Wizard, tried to intimidate the popular Italian but Bruno ignored these taunts.

After the Wizard was escorted from the ring Sloan charged at Sammartino and caught Bruno by surprise. It looked as if Bruno's return to the Garden would be marred by Sloan, but Sammartino was determined that this wouldn't happen. Bruno threw Sloan off and then he proceeded to knock him all around the ring. As the crowd cheered wildly, Bruno continued to toss Sloan around as if he were a rubber ball. Sammartino flipped Sloan and then started to twist his arm in time to the chants of the crowd. 1,2,3,4. . .

Sloan managed to gouge Bruno's eyes, which forced Bruno to release his hold but he quickly contered with a trip out and leg lock. Once again the crowd roared its approval, but Smasher Sloan managed to break free. Bruno quickly grabbed Sloan, tossed him once again and as Sloan came off the ropes, Sammartino lifted him high in the air and applied his dreaded backbreaker. Sammartino kept Sloan in this position until the referee signaled for Bruno to release his hold. Bruno then tossed Sloan aside as if he were a sack of wheat.



Bruno picks up Sloan and uses his famous backbraker to put away his opponent.



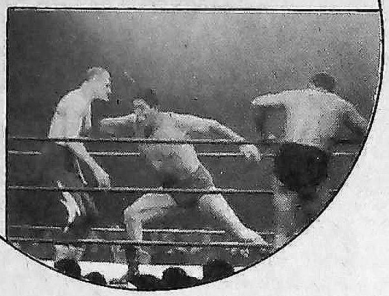
With this victory, the crowd went wild with delight. Arnold Skaaland came back into the ring to congratulate Sammartino and Bruno bowed to the crowd, thanking them for the tremendous ovation. Several Italian and American flags were tossed into the ring and Bruno picked them up, waving them high in the air.

After acknowleging the cheers, Sammartino tried to leave the ring but he was once again met by many well-wishers tossing confetti and streamers at the popular ex-champ. Once inside the dressing room, Bruno was an extremely happy person. Grinning from ear to ear, he stated, "I am very happy to be back here in New York. I am thrilled that so many wonderful fans turned out to greet me again after my absence from this area. I wanted to please them for the great reception which they were giving me."

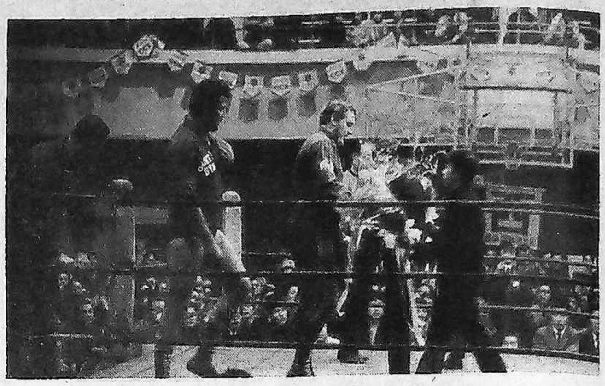
A great many fans turned out to witness Bruno Sammartino's return to the Garden and no one left disappointed In fact, everyone is eagerly awaiting Sammartino's next return to the famed arena.

ACTION IN JAPAN

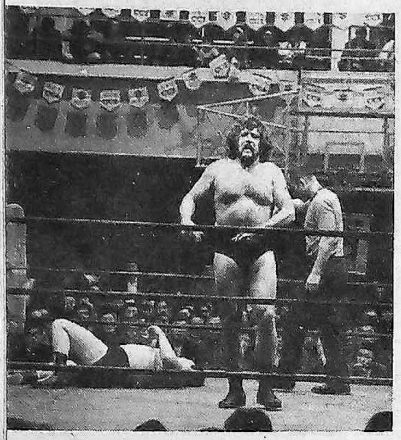
By KOICHI YOSHIZAWA



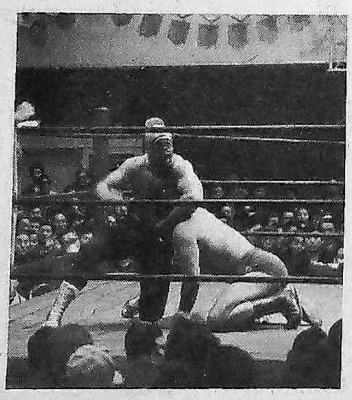
N.W.A. PAGE



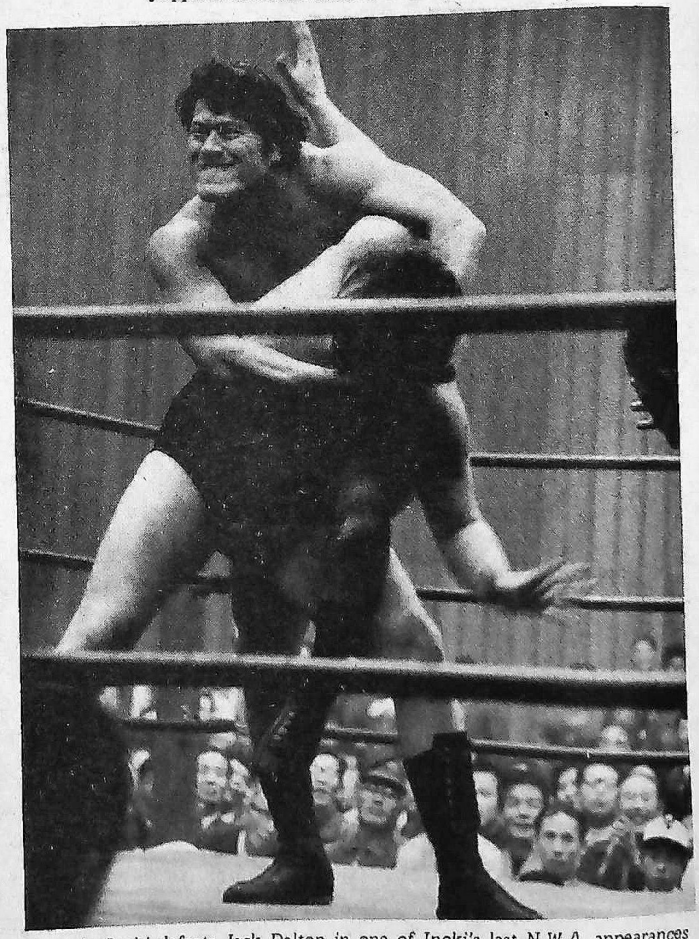
Stomper Guy Mitchell and Mario Milano receive the traditional bouquets of flowers that are given to foreign grapplers before the main event in Japan.



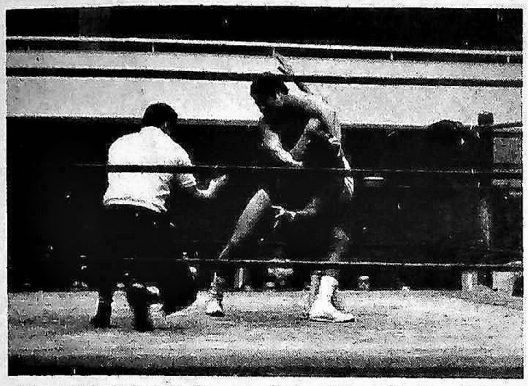
Dale Lewis has just won a victory over Hirai much to the chagrin of the Japanese fans.



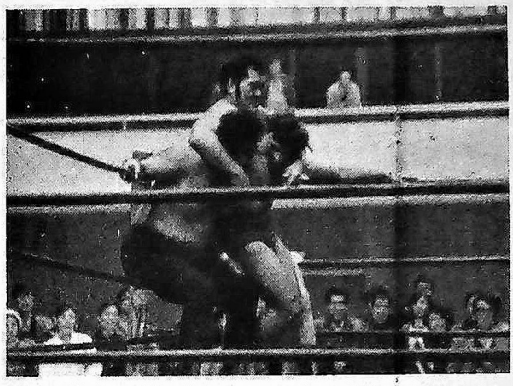
El Sicodelico catchès The Great Kojika with a head lock.



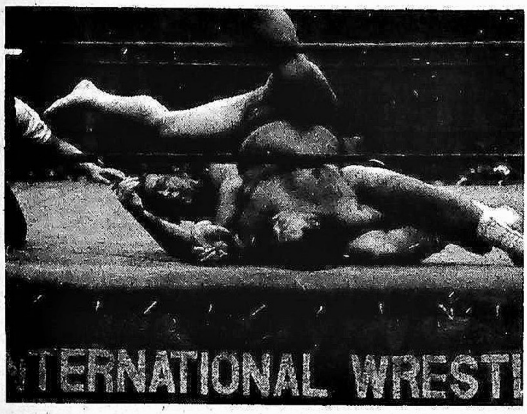
Antonio Inoki defeats Jack Dalton in one of Inoki's last N.W.A. appearances before jumping to the New Japan (third) promotion group now active in Japan.



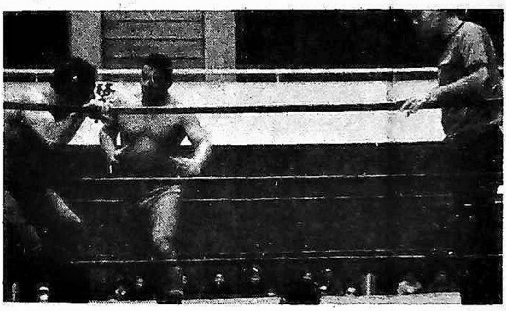
Teranishi defeated Avenger Hahn Lee with the Cobra Twist in this Action.



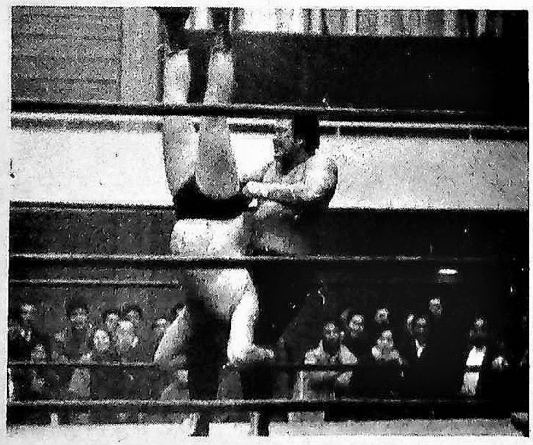
Shozo Kobayashi, who many say is now the top Japanese wrestler, uses a double headlock to take care of King Curtis Iaukea and Jerry Oates.



Thunder Sugiyama, former Japanese Olympic wrestling great, fought to a draw with Danny Miller.



Animal Hamaguchi defeated Charles Verhuist in one of his last appearances before his home fans before he embarked on an American tour.



Kimura used one of wrestling's most dangerous holds, the pile driver, against Kenny Jay.

FANS' CANDID CORNER

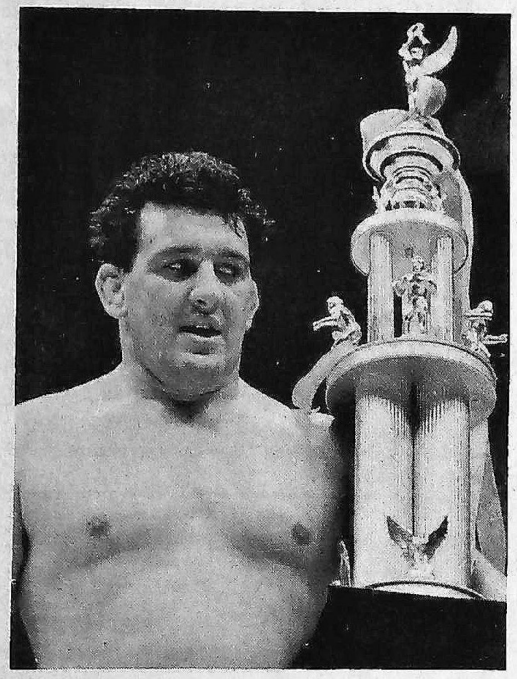
The increase in the number of photos being submitted for Candid Corner has really kept us hopping. We have received more entries for this contest than any other ever run by us. Keep them coming and remember: not only are there monthly winners, but each photo that is chosen as "PHOTO OF THE MONTH" becomes eligible for the "PHOTO OF THE YEAR" Award, a prize worth $25.00 dollars.

So keep them coming. The "Photo of The Month" receives a prize of $5.00 and each other photo that we use receives a prize of $2.00.

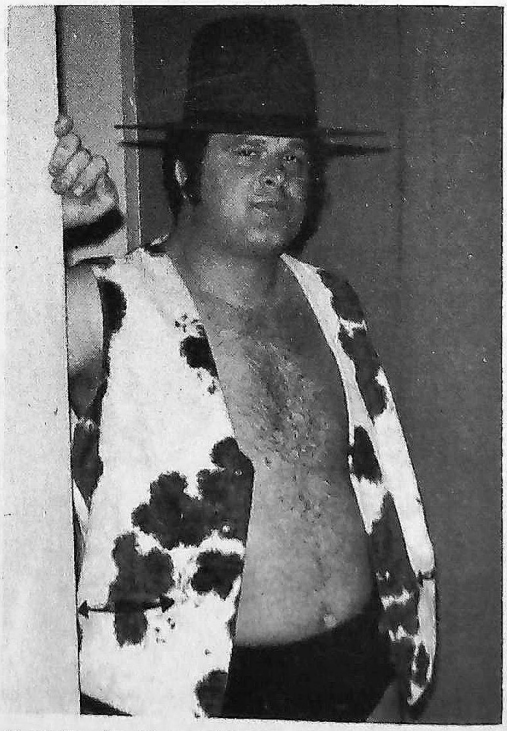
Remember, all photos become the property of WRESTLING REVUE and cannot be returned.

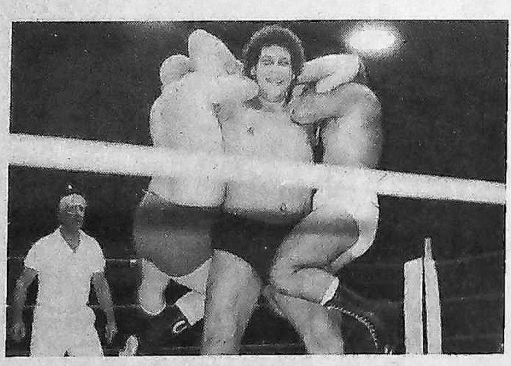
Any photo about wrestling or wrestlers is eligible for the contest.

Be sure to list your name and address on the back along with a caption that describes the photo and send it to FANS' CANDID CORNER, Wrestling Revue, P.O. Box 221, Manville Rd., Pleasantville, N.Y. 10570.



First prize money this month went to Hiroshi Kono of Shiman-ken, Japan for this photo of European and British Empire Champion Billy Robinson.

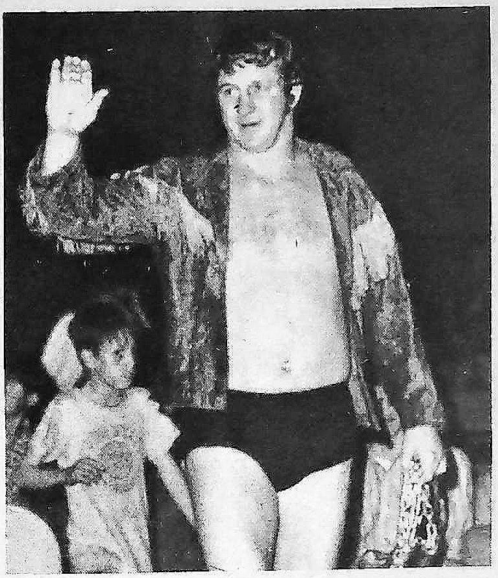




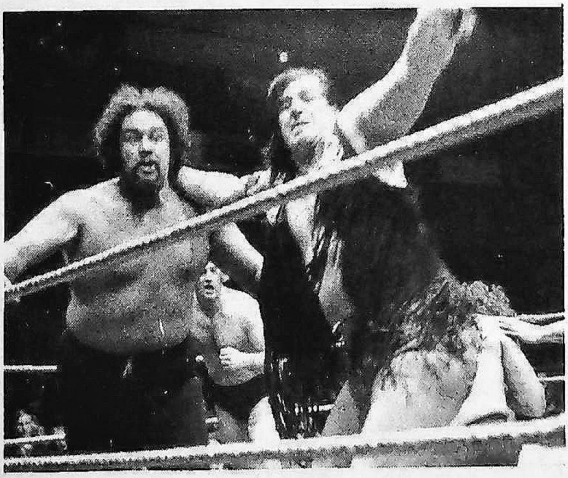
Giant Jean Ferre picks up both Bronko Barnes and Frank Lipanovich in this pictured by Rojanachotikul of Aukland, New Zealand.

North American Heavyweight Champion Cowboy Bill Watts relaxes before a match in St. Louis and gave Sara Koenig of Florissant, Missouri, a chance to snap this photo.

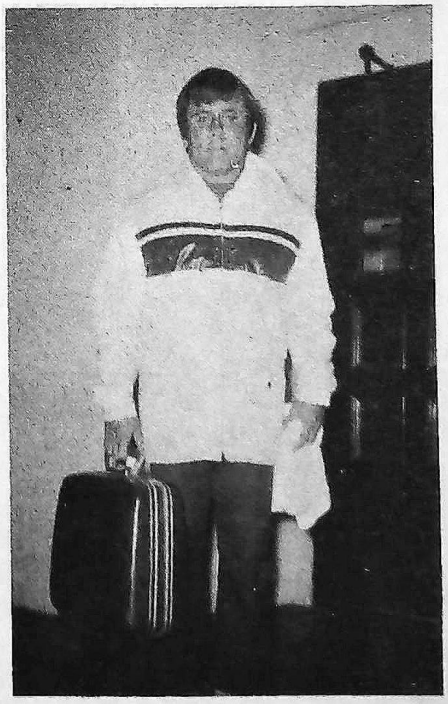
Ricky Romero wears a colorful jacket into the ring and photographer Junior Jaramillo of Seagraves, Texas, scores with this photo.



Philip Rodriguez Jr. of Shallowater, Texas, got this prize winning shot of Terry Funk on the way to the wrestling ring for a chain match.



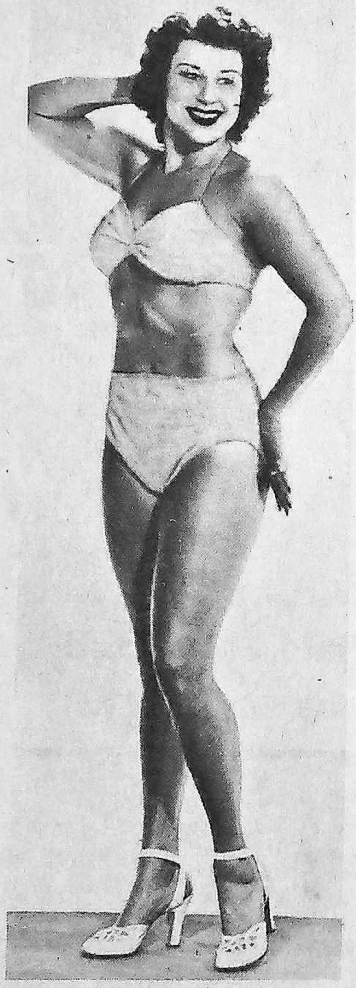
Chief Jay Strongbow whips King Curtis across the Philadelphia ring in a tag match. John Wesolowski of the city of brotherly love had his camera in the right place to get this prize winner.



The new mod look of Pepper Gomez as photographed by Frank Cather of San Jose, California.

WHERE IS HE TODAY?

MIKE GALLAGHER



Juanita Coffman was one of the great girl wrestlers a few years back. Today she is Mrs. Mike Gallagher.

Mike Gallagher in his wrestling prime. Today he is a restaurant owner and also a promoter.

By GENTLEMAN SAUL WEINGEROFF

Not too many years ago, Mike and Doc Gallagher were one of the top tag teams around.

Nowdays, Mike is a prosperous restraunt owner. He lives in Charlotte, North Carolina, where he operates a chain of Pizza parlors (Shakies) with branches in Roanoke, Va., Norfolk, Va., and Charlotte.

Mike and Doc were sitting on top of the tag team world in the forties and fifties, and Mike is still doing great.

He is married to Juanita Coffman, who was one of the great girl wrestlers.

Mike and George Becker recently started a wrestling promotion booking office. They are running cards throughout the Carolinas.

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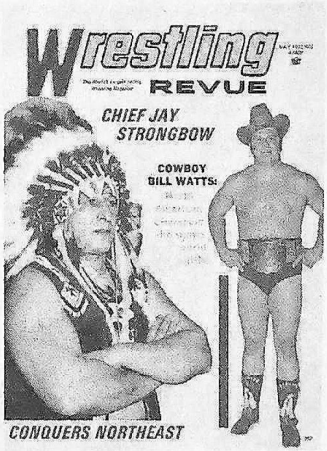

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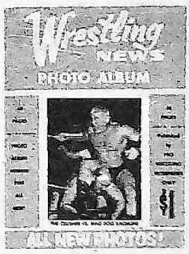

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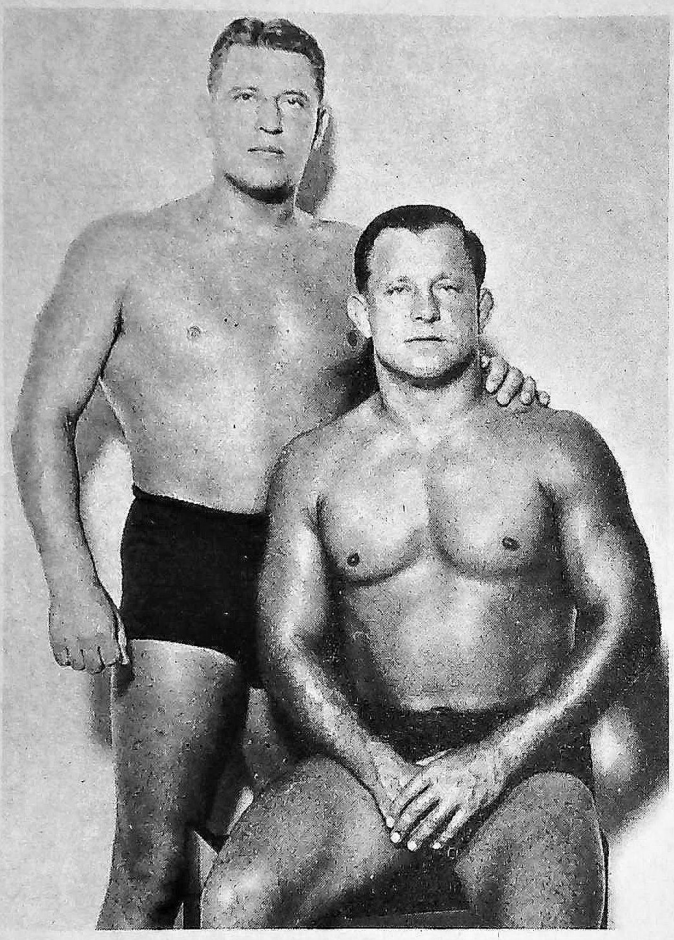


Bobby and George Becker in a photo taken in 1953. The brothers were one of the biggest box office attractions in professional wrestling during the 1950's.

THE GEORGE BECKER STORY

First Of Two Parts

By GENE GORDON

During the past 25 years there have been many popular and outstanding professional wrestlers who have appeared in the Southern states, but none has been more popular than George Becker. Now that he is semi-retired from the sport, it seems appropriate that his story be set down for the record in Wrestling Revue.

Born in Brooklyn, New York, Becker grew up there and as a youngster started going to the Cooper Athletic Club. This club featured boxing, wrestling and weight lifting, and it was there that young George first became interested in the mat sport. This was during the depression years. He wrestled with other boys at the gym, and entered several tournaments sponsored by the club.

George was much better than most of the other lads, and his natural ability came to the notice of Carlos Enrique, who was a professional wrestler as well as a coach at Columbia University. Enrique encouraged George to continue training.

Shortly after Enrique spoke to him, George wrestled in another tournament. "This time I wrestled eight matches in one day. I got to the finals but I lost a close match to a more experienced opponent. However, it didn't discourage me. In fact, it made me more determined and I became more serious and started training harder than ever.

"There were a lot of old pros who worked out at the Boys Club and at the famous George Bothner's Gym. I used to watch them and pick up a lot of moves from them. But when I saw that many of them had cauliflower ears and trachoma, the dreaded eye disease which many wrestlers of that time suffered, I began to wonder if I really wanted to be a professional wrestler.

"But I guess it was in my blood, and soon I was working out with some of the veteran wrestlers, men like Dave Levin, Hans Kampler, who was called "The German Oak," and others. They gave me lots of encouragement and helpful hints. About this time my brother Bobby also became interested in wrestling and we both began intensive, serious training with the determination that we would make wrestling our profession."

At the time, George was working for an aquarium in New York City, caring for tropical fish. But due to the depression, the aquarium went out of business and young Becker was out of a job. He considered leaving home to seek work elsewhere, but his parents pleaded with him to stay home. He was still training at the gym every night and his parents urged him to turn professional. They were behind him all the way.

So in 1934, George Becker made his professional debut at the Ridgewood Grove Arena. He became a popular

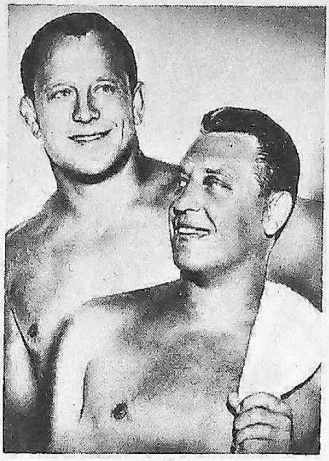
name there, and was kept busy, gaining the experience that he needed. He lost quite a few bouts, won some, and generally was satisfied that he was holding his own against the seasoned old pros.

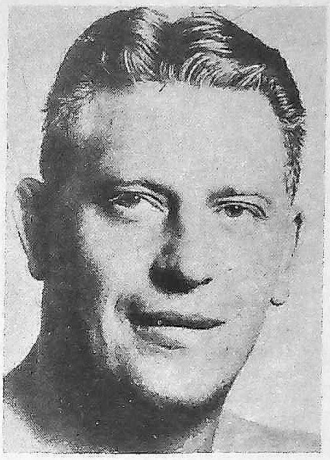
"Those early bouts," says George, "were what really put me on my way and hardened me for my long career. Sometimes in the early days I wanted to quit after getting banged and bruised all over my body. Sometimes I was barely able to crawl out of bed the next morning. The pay wasn't too good back in those depression days but work was hard to find and the pay I was getting was much better than what other people were getting, if they were able to get anything at all. I stuck to wrestling, and I have never regretted it. Sometimes memories of those tough times come back. . .I can never forget them. But I'm glad I stuck it out.

"I have to laugh when some of the fellows complain today that they're not getting paid enough. Why, I have wrestled in carnivals for next to nothing. I remember being some place in Alabama, in 1938 I think it was. I was wrestling all comers. Wrestled four times that night and I got the grand total of $3.40. And to top it off, while I was taking my shower afterwards, somebody stole the money out of my pants."

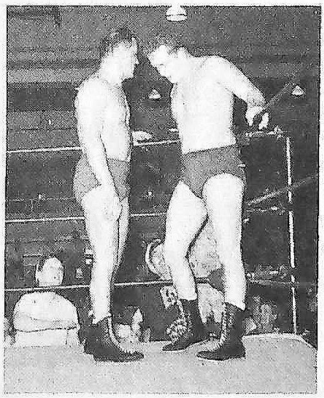
One of George's first important matches took place in the summer of 1936 at the Ridgewood Grove in Brooklyn. His opponent was a highly-touted lad by the name of Lou Thesz. This same Lou Thesz, of course, went on the win the World Heavyweight Wrestling Title from Everett Marshall, if my memory serves me correctly. Between 1936 and 1938 the title was disputed by several top matmen such as Dick Shikat, Ali Baba, Marshall, and finally Thesz was proclaimed official World Champion in an elimination tournament. He held the title five different times during his career.

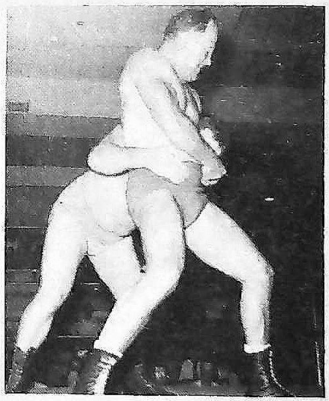
Getting back to George Becker, he recalls that the night in 1936 when he wrestled Thesz was the first time a wrestling program was televised. He wrestled all around the Eastern seaboard from 1936 to 1941. He was in Philadelphia when World War Two broke out. Becker entered the Coast Guard and served with ex-heavyweight boxing champion Jack Dempsey as a Physical instructor at Manhattan Beach. Occasionally George managed to get leave and on these nights off he wrestled whenever possible. There were some other well-known professional wrestlers serving in the same Coast Guard unit at Manhattan Beach, such men as Lou Plummer, Ed Don George and Bibber McCoy. These wrestlers kept in good shape by teaching physical fitness programs to the boys in the Coast Guard and they





The Becker's were truly America's most popular brother tag team as the 1951 publicity shot at left proclaims. Right: the late Bobby Becker in a photo taken in 1953.





Left: George Becker and Dick Steinborn were a very popular tag team in the late 50's. Right: Becker is seen in action against Jack Vansky. Both photos were taken in 1957.

George Becker, Jack Witzig, and Herb Schiff pose with a group of their fans in 1957.

also worked out with each other when time allowed.

When the war ended they were ready to resume where they had left off and started wrestling regularly once again. Bibber McCoy, whom I remember well, was a topnotcher in the Carolinas and wrestled during the 1940's for promoter Jim Crockett at the old Charlotte Armory. The last I heard, Bibber was a director for a C.Y.O. Boys Club in New York. Plummer, also well known then in Southern wrestling circles, I have lost track of and the same goes for Ed Don George. Ed was a top-ranked mat ace during the late 1930's and 40's, meeting all the top performers of his era.

Around 1946, George Becker left the East Coast for Los Angeles. In the meantime, brother Bobby Becker had gained quite a reputation around New York, New Jersey, Philadelphia, and Washington, D.C.

In California, George Becker was an immediate hit, taking Los Angeles by storm. The Golden State fans had never before taken a wrestler to their hearts as quickly as they warmed to Becker. He gained an army of followers everywhere he appeared. At that time Southern California had some of the best wrestling talent anywhere – such stars as the Smith Brothers, Ernie and Emil Dusek, Willie and Karl Davis, Fred and Billy McDaniels, Al and Enrique Torres, Joe Pazandak, Sandor Szabo, Lord Carlton, Vic Holbrook, and Pat Fraley, among others.

After a long stay in California with much success, Becker returned to the East Coast, but only for a short visit The California wrestling fans were clamoring for him to come back, and promoters Jules Strongbow, Cal Eaton and Johnny Doyle had to give in to the wishes of the fans. They sent George a telegram in New York asking him to please return as soon as possible. And they sent him an offer that would make it worth his while. So George soon was making his way back to Los Angeles.

For George's return to the Olympic Auditorium there was a complete sellout – more than 13,000 people packing the arena, and hundreds of others turned away. George can't remember who his opponent was that night – he just remembers the crowd, and the jam-packed arenas everywhere he appeared in California. TV was just coming into its own, and was helping make wrestling the No. 1 spectator sport in the country.

In 1956, George Becker and Jack Witzig held the Southern Tag Team Championship trophy.

Stars of that early TV era were Gorgeous George, with his marcelled hair; and his Louis XV robe of imported velvet fringed with gold lace; Lord Carlton, who would not climb through the ropes unless decked out in his long, flowing cape and monocle, closely followed by his faithful valet; Tiger Joe Marsh, who sported a $1,000 custom-made robe with a fangs-bared tiger head at each shoulder; the Great Scott, who entered the arena followed by his bagpipe player rendering a Scottish battle song..

Fans of those Fabulous Fifties will remember others, like Gene Stanlee, Baron Leone, Mildred Burke, Hillbilly Daisy Mae, the gorgeous blonde bombshell, Nell Stewart; Juanita Coffman, Violet Viann, and others.

About this time a fellow named Babe Sharkey, was recognized as world champion. After several victories over name opponents, Becker gained the right to meet Sharkey, who came out to Los Angeles to risk his laurels. Sharkey thought he had a setup in Becker, but he soon found out he had been much too over-confident and he discovered he was up against one of the best young wrestlers he had ever come face to face with, shortly after the bell rang to start the action. As you probably guessed, Becker defeated Sharkey, and was pronounced World Champion.

He then sent for his brother, Bobby who by now had gained a reputation on the East Coast. They hooked up as a tag team and were a success from the start. Bobby was soon just as popular in California as brother George. They won the World's Tag Team title and proceeded to establish a record for the most wins of any tag team in history, piling up over 90 wins in California.

About this time, the TV tapes from California matches were being shown all over the country. The tapes were shown in the Carolinas and Virginia on Saturday nights, sponsored by the American Hardware and Equipment Company. The demand for the Becker brothers began to grow in these areas, and finally, Bill Lewis, the late promoter from Richmond, Virginia, got the famous Becker brothers to leave California and come to the South. The fans out in this neck of the woods took to the Beckers as a wrestling attraction quicker than ducks to water. All over the Carolinas, Virginia, Tennessee, Georgia and other Southern states the Brooklyn-born wrestlers were adopted by the fans.

Wrestling under the promotional banner of Jim Crockett, the Beckers were the most popular tag team in the history of Carolinas wrestling. And that goes back a long way, as Mr. Crockett started out promoting wrestling back in 1932. They met and defeated some of the best teams from 1951 to 1954, including Al and John Smith, Ernie and Emil Dusek, Hans Schnabel and Mr. Moto, Earl Wampler and Red O'Connor, Kinji Shibuya and Mr. ,Moto, Fred Blassie and Billy McDaniels, and many, many more.

They were so popular in Charlotte, N.C., that after an absence, on their return to Charlotte the mayor, then Victor Shaw, presented the Beckers with the keys to the Queen City. But little did they know that even as honor after honor was heaped on them, that tragedy was about to strike.

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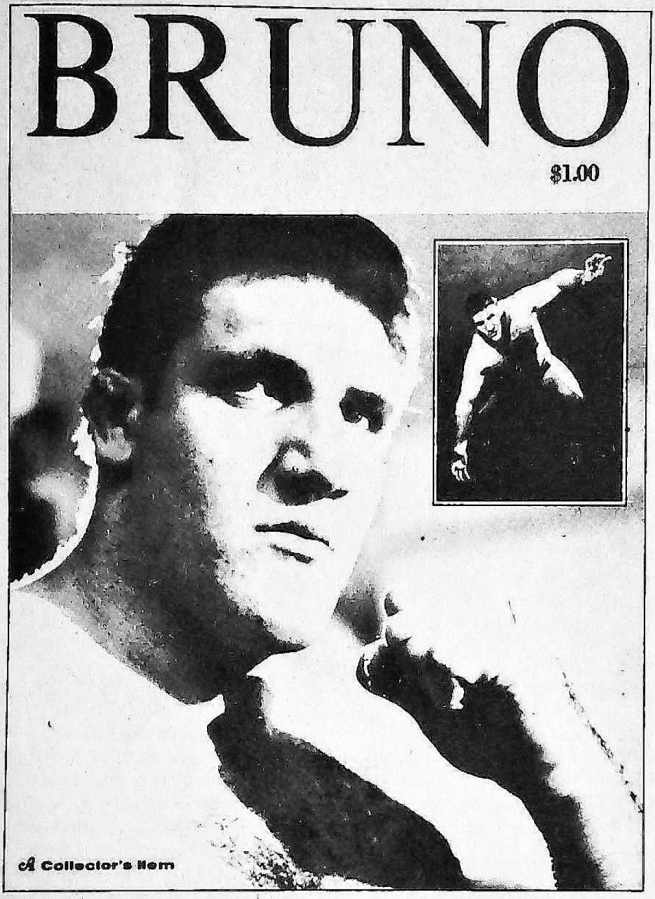

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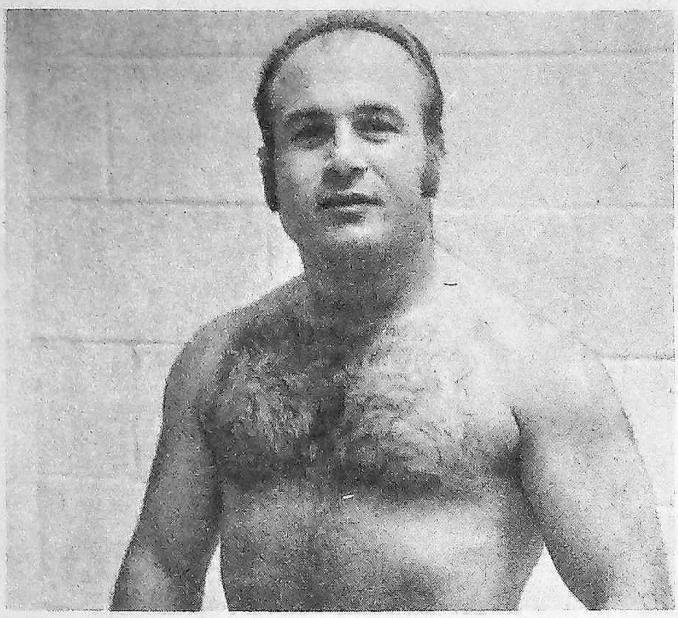
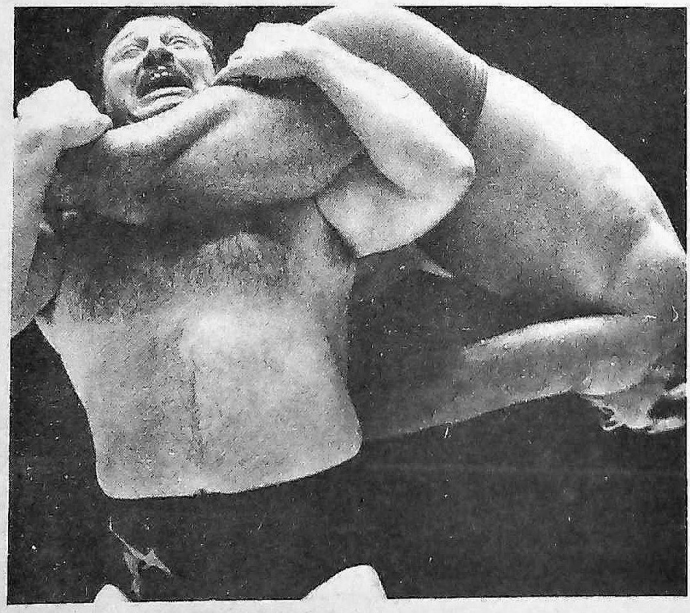
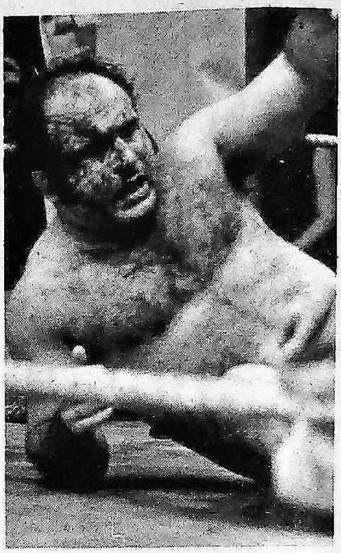
MIKE PAPPAS
A LIGHTHEAVYWEIGHT WITH A FUTURE



Mike Pappas is one of the top lightheavyweights in the world today. Below he is seen in action in Madison Square Garden a few months ago, with a flying head scissors on Kangaroo Don Kent.





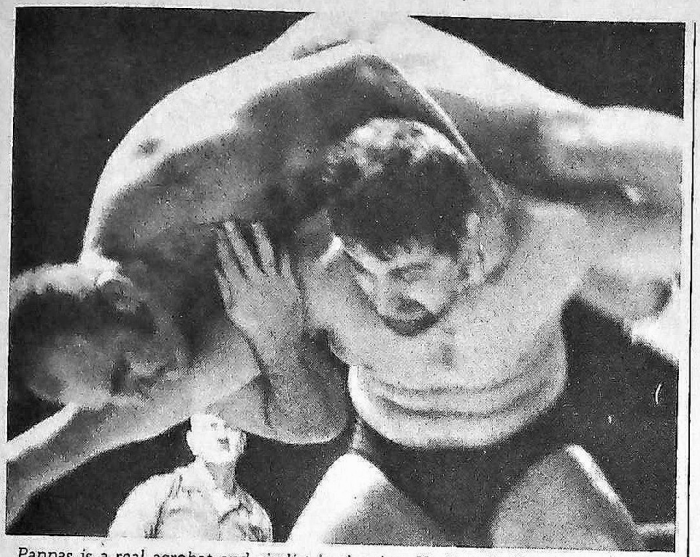
Pappas has found the path to success hard. On this night his face ended up a bloody mess.

By KIMBERLY THOMAS

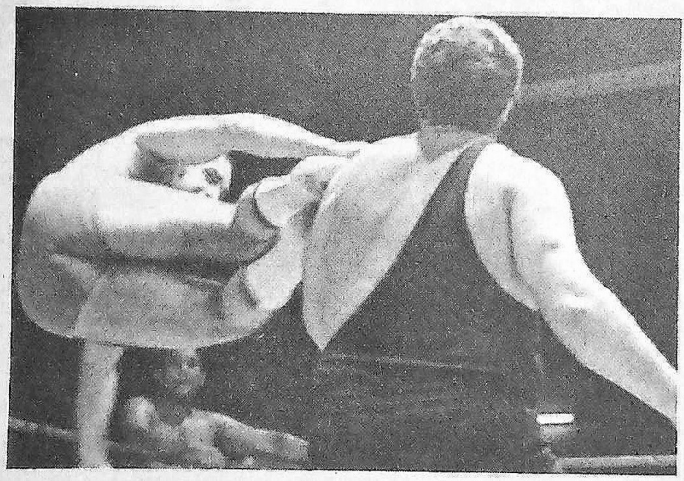
Helping to maintain Greece's claim as a breeding ground for topflight matmen is Mike Pappas, the stocky-built lightheavyweight. This popular wrestler has made tremendous progress since he joined the professional ranks five years ago.

Mike's movements in the ring have a wonderful continuity, a smoothness and grace which one tends to associate with top exponents of the art of wrestling. Lightheavyweights especially have a faculty for making the transition from hold to counter-hold seem almost effortless. They preform some of wrestling's most spectacular moves with an ease and precision that are the envy of many a heavier man.

Mike Pappas does all these things and adds the ingredient of toughness to his talents. Before he turned pro, Mike spent three years wrestling as an amateur. He also boxed professionally, but he quickly determined that wrestling was his whole life.



Pappas is a real acrobat and aierlist in the ring. He literally flies into opponents with drop kicks that cut them down to his size.



"I would be the unhappiest man in the world if I could not wrestle," says Mike, and in those words is the secret of his greatness.

His career since becoming a pro has been of steady progress. Mike looks back with pleasure on a successful tour of Mexico, France, Spain and Germany. Besides speaking Greek, his native tongue, Mike speaks fluent Spanish, German and English.

Mike is always wrestling against heavier men, and inevitably acquits himself well, even when he has not emerged as the victor. It is two such heavier men who stand out in his mind as his toughest opponents. One was Karl Gotch, whom he wrestled in Madison Square Garden in New York. The other is Kurt von Brauner, whom he wrestled in Munich, Germany, last year. Both being champions, they represent really though opponents for a lightheavyweight.

Championship honors have not yet come to Mike Pappas, but the future looks very bright to this young wrestler. He is building solid experience, and when the opportunity comes for him to fight for the championship, whoever happens to hold it at that time will certainly have the fight of his life to hang onto the title.

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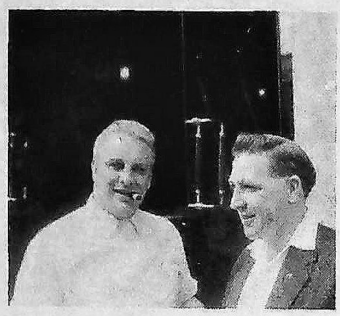
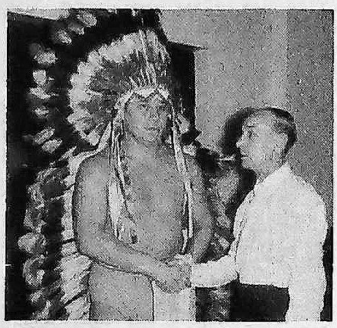
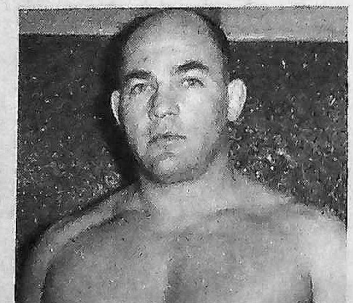


Terry Garvin and author Dave Cameron



Billy Two Rivers and referee Tiny Carr.

Above: Frank Hurley and George Gordienko, Below: Gordon Nelson.



By DAVE CAMERON

The British Isles is the mecca of grapplers from all parts of the globe. It is not unusual to see Russians, Germans, Hungarians, Australians, Indians, Poles, Greeks, Spaniards and American's on any wrestling program in Britain. Although we haven't seen a great deal of American or Canadian wrestlers over the past few years, several stand out as outstanding drawcards who could pack any hall in the country.

Probably the greatest drawcard in the history of British Wrestling was the young Mohawk Indian, Billy Two Rivers. Billy was born on the Caughnawaga Indian Reservation in Canada and was a protege of the late great Chief Don Eagle.

From the moment he first set foot on British soil Billy was a sensation with his famous hair style. School children were copying Billy's hair style and shaving their heads, except for a strip of hair down the middle, and getting into serious trouble from their headmaster's. Looking resplendent in his colourful Indian head-dress, Billy soon set the wrestling world on fire with his tomahawk chops and his Indian war-dance. T.V. viewers were quick to take to this young Indian Brave and he soon became the most televised wrestler in the country.

Billy's first match in Britain was against highly rated Yorkshireman Geoff Portz, and this proved to be his only loss in British rings. Not being familiar with the British rules could easily have been the reason for his early defeat, as Billy soon proved what an outstanding matman he was.

Every summer and Christmas Billy returned to the reservation to spend time with his parents, before returning for another successful tour. He was always given a welcome usually reserved for film stars on his return.

Some years ago Ricki Starr arrived in England almost unheralded. It was not long before he established himself as a unique personality, who combined speed and skill in a truly amazing fashion. Overnight the English wrestling fans got to hear about the ex-ballet dancer Ricki Starr, and a great new sensational name was added to the list of overseas wrestlers who "stood out" in the public mind. He has been doing so ever since.

While studying at Purdue University, Starr took up ballet dancing and wrestling. As a student he won 17 amateur wrestling titles. Later he danced for Mid Western Opera and Ballet Company.

Ricki soon became a great TV star in Britain, and Promoters all over England were clamouring for his services. Before his contest with Mick McManus at London's luxurious Royal Albert Hall, one London newspaper had this to say! "The contest between fiery Mick McManus, the former British Welterweight Champion from New Cross and, the acrobatic Ricki Starr from St. Louis, Missouri, is an epic piece of matchmaking and one not likely ever to be duplicated anywhere in the world."

One of the smallest American "Heavies" to visit England, Ricki met and defeated many much heavier opponents.

His contest with Mick McManus was a sellout many weeks before the event, and had all London talking. Ricki became the winner in the 6th round when England's greatest ring villain was disqualified for illegal tactics. What a great reception the American was given as his hand was raised in victory.

One of Britain's most regular visitors was the masked American sensation, Zebra Kid George Bollas. George made Britain his base and travelled to and from Germany, Greece, France, and many foreign countries. Despite his great bulk, and lack of height, George was remarkably swift and active in the ring. One of America's greatest amateur champions., George was a very knowledgeable professional who could wrestle in any company. It was a sad moment for wrestling when George was forced to retire from the mat following a serious eye injury, suffered during a match in Germany.

The Canadian powerhouse, George Gordienko, was one of the most brilliant matmen to show his wares in Britain. For many years he was the top

matman in all Europe, and very few men could boast a win over this young powerhouse. It was Minnesota great Joe Pazandak who first discovered young Gordienko working out in a gym. Old pro Joe took George in hand and showed him all the tricks of the trade. Today George still travels the world. He was recently seen in Canada, Indian and New Zealand. George calls London home these days. Besides wrestling, he is a very talented artist.

Sky Hi Lee, the famous Texan who settled in England, still roams the world but spends most of his time in England. The giant Sky, 6 ft.-10, was a big drawcard. He would quite casually eat a packet of razor-blades, follow up with a couple of light-bulbs, and then strip off his shirt and let his back be used as a dartboard. Yes real darts. Sky could easily have made his living on the stage, had he not favoured wrestling.

Big ',Crusher" Verdu from Ohio, is a well-known visitor to British rings. Not a popular star like Ricki Starr or Billy Two Rivers, Crusher soon gets himself in trouble with the audience, but nevertheless is a tough, rugged grappler who can compete with the best of them. Crusher is well known in the Vienna and German tournaments, and is always pleased to wrestle in Spain, the land of his forebears.

Gordon Nelson, another top Canadian ex-amateur star and an excellent professional, is well known in Britain. Gordon is at present in the United States but hopes to return to the British Isles soon.

The late George "Catalina" Drake made many fans on his two visits to England. I was at West Ham baths in London the night George opened his first British tour. He had just flown in from America in the afternoon and was sick from the travelling. but insisted on going in to meet tough, "Turbulent" Alan Garfield. George became a great favorite, always willing to sign autographs and speak to his numerous fans. George met all the top names here and the all-American clashes with Zebra Kid George Bollas were outstanding.

Kenny Ackles, another top American star, had a short season here and impressed with his wrestling ability . Possessor of a beautiful physique, Ken was not a big heavyweight by American standards, and was able to meet many of the lighter weight boys seen in British rings.

Tony Olivas, the weird looking former Elephant Boy of American rings, made two visits here. He arrived here from South Africa billed as Zando Zabo. The bushy-haired Tony Knew his wrestling and has been a globe-trotter for many years.

King Curtis "The Bull" Iaukea, the giant Hawaiian who toured Britain, was one of the biggest men to wrestle in these parts. Mainly seen in the North of England, Curtis drew some very large houses. Good-looking Frankie Townsend was a big success here, especially with the famale fans. This tall, handsome American star was a success from the moment he set foot inside a British ring.

Talkative Texan Jack Bence paid several visits to Britain and fans will not forget him in a hurry. Jack always grabbed the ring microphone and made a speech after each contest.

"Gorgeous" Terry Garvin wrestled extensively around British rings and soon established himself as a top villain. "Gorgeous" Terry, with his colourful robes and costumes, and his rugged style, soon proved to be a good drawcard.

Lee 'Flash" Edwards from Canada was one of the better lighter heavyweights who settled in England. This blonde glamour boy could really wrestle.

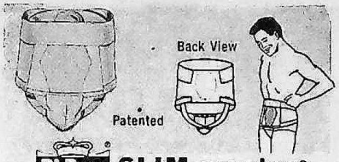
Ed Carpentier, who is well known in the United States, has made a couple of short visits to England but has never done an extensive tour. Eddie, who started his career as Eddie Wieczkorski and later wrestled as Eddie Wiecz., featured in a classic drawn contest at the Royal Albert Hall in 1965 with Geoff Portz.

Lucky Simunovich, the barefooted Hawaiian sensation, was also a very successful and colourful performer in British and Continental rings.

Another well known in American rings is the Greek star Johnny Kostas. John was a big success in Britain, as was Frenchman Andre Drapp.

The Great Zorro, the giant Dutchman with the outstanding body, went through 39 contests in British rings without defeat before meeting George Gordienko in his last match. Georges put an end to Zorro's great record and came out the winner.

I should mention that American and foreign wrestlers are only allowed forty matches in any one year in British rings.



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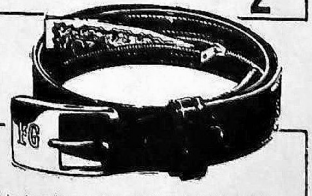

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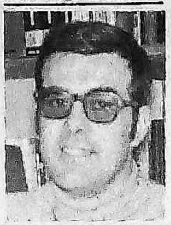
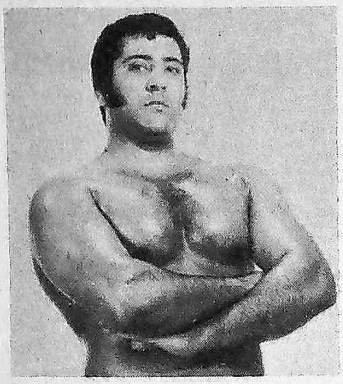
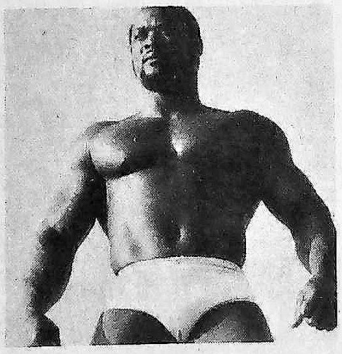


By MICHEL BEZY



Ali Bey – doing well in North Africa.

Mildred Van Lloyd and Blanche Brown meet in the semi-finals of a Bordeaux tournament. Mildred won a hotly disputed decision.



Mammouth Siki – strongest in Europe?

Michel and Julien Morriss.

Several thousand people watched the prowess of the best present-day female wrestlers and this great tournament of Bordeaux finally resulted in a victory for the solid American, Mildred Van Lloyd, who, in the finals, triumphed over the very beautiful wrestler from La Rochelle, Marine Prevot. This fight was fantastic. For many years to come, the spectators will remember it as being one of the finest of all time. . .twenty-three minutes of exceptional wrestling, practised by two female wrestlers in superb form, a combat in which force blended with virtuosity.

Mildred Van Lloyd triumphed by a K.O. after violently ejecting the courageous French girl from the ring. The latter climbed back into the ring long after the 10 fateful seconds.

Mildred had eliminated the other American girl, Blanche Brown, in the semi-finals. This semi-final was sharply disputed and it was the arbitrating referee who gave the preference to Mildred after 30 minutes of fighting.

Only those invited may take part in this tournament and they must have won a certain number of victories in order to be able to participate. In the final stage, there were 8 wrestlers: Mildred Van Lloyd, Blanche Brown, Martine Prevost, Gina Rochelle, Lady Fatima, Paule Westerman, Ida Lupino and Rosy Lambert.

There was a very great wrestling session at the Winter Circus when two first-rate wrestlers, Rene Ben Chemoul and his Dauphin, the young wrestler from Bordeaux, Walter Bordes, fought against two Soviet wrestlers. Our two world champions very easily triumphed over Boris Gorlakov and Igor Kerinski.

During this same evening we watched the fight for the title of European champion in which the young Frenchmen, Jo Cohen and Maurice Dumez, snatched the title away from the Spaniards, Anton Terejo and Antonio Montoro.

The strong man, the man who is climbing at the moment is the colossal black man, Mammouth Siki, whose real name is Cesar Viltard and who, before becoming a wrestling star, was a very great physical culturist. At the present time, Mammouth is certainly the strongest man in Europe. He is strength itself, he literally catapults

his opponents from the ring and nothing so far has been able to stop him. Mammouth Siki is from great champion stock and we shall shortly be seeing the fight between Siki-Lassartesse, a fight at the top for the supreme title.

The phalanx of Bordeaux wrestlers, under the leadership of its chief, Kid Benoit, regularly organizes matches in the South-West and South of France. It should be noted that a team is distinguishing itself by its "vandal" style-the Demons of the Ring-who arouse passions but who are inclined to indulge in too many irregularities, much to the annoyance of the referees. This team is composed of Yan Zirlish, the famous Yugoslavian hangman, and his associate, the shark from Bordeaux, Christ Perliet, who began under the pseudonym of Roc des Ardennes.

During a recent stay in North Africa, we saw many very great wrestlers and we can assure you that Ali Bey is a colossal champion; moreover, the Parisian public will soon be discovering him when he faces the Teuton, "Karl Von Kramer". Last Saturday in Angers, was held for the first time in Europe, a match comprising 8 female wrestlers (with prison), that is to say, the referee can expel one or another of the wrestlers as he thinks fit and put her "in prison", just as in ice hockey. On one side there were the scientific wrestlers, Lina Magnani (Italy), Margrit Koltay (Hungary), Annie Corley (France) and the newcomer Suzanne Dupuis, a buxom and ravishing red-head of 23 from Lille. On the other side there were the tough and ferocious Lea Dewert (Belgium), Lola Garcia (Spain) and Nadia Joukov (Russia). The fourth member of the group was the very beautiful Swiss girl, Erika Keller, who at the last minute, replaced the black fury, Olivia Mongho. . .It was a complete evening, an evening of great art, one of drama, suspense, violence, bloody, with falls, ejections. . .truly a great, very great show.

We would like to mention simply that Lina Magnani is still the best in out opinion, that Erika Keller, with the marvellous and harmonious figure, is quite simply "remarkable", that Annie Corley is suppleness itself, she is a liana: of the ring, and that Lea Dewert is worthy of the "Hercules" for the same reason as Jessica Rogers, who challenges the men in public.

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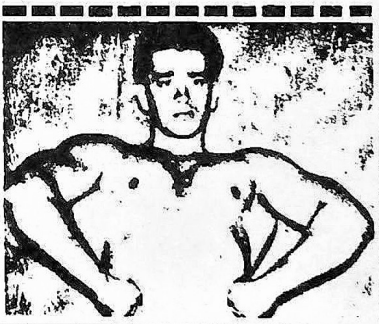

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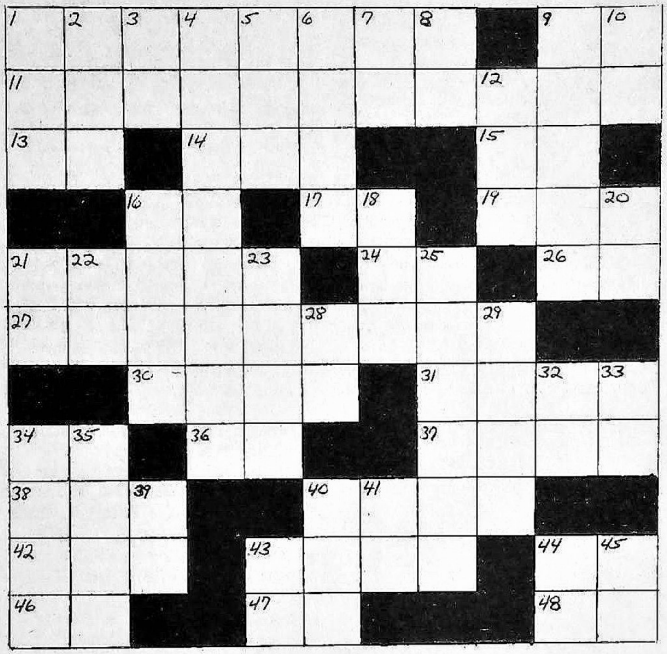
WRESTLING REVUE "SPORTS-WORD" PUZZLE

By JOE MORGAN



ACROSS

1. Sensational mat star (2 wds.)
9. Initials of 19 across
11. Villain wrestler in the South (2 wds.)
13. Initials of Mark Lewin, grappler
14. "Bulldog" .....Henning, veteran grappler
15. Initials of wrestler Ian Gilmour
16. Initials of young grappler Jim Dillon
17. Initials of Arnold Skoaland, manager and wrestler
19. ..... Bastien, top notch wrestler
21. The ....., villain grappler
24. Initials of Kenji Shibuya, wrestler
26. Initials of Randy Curtis, young wrestler
27. A very tough villain wrestler (2 wds.)
30. 8 down has two of them.
31. Mack ....., rough grappler
34. Wrestler Sam Steamboat came from this state (Abbreviation)
36. Initials of lady grappler Nola Goldsmith
37. ..... Funk Jr., popular mat star from Texas
38. ..... Jacobs, wrestler from New Zealand
40. ..... Blassie, villain wrestler
42. Billy "....." Lyons, skillful grappler
43. Sandy ....., tough wrestler
44. Mike ..... Bell, wrestling promoter
46. Professional wrestling has been very successful in this country (abbreviation)
47. Top wrestling matches are held in this state (abbreviation)
48. ..... Costello, tough grappler

DOWN

1. ..... Bradley, grappler in the South
2. State where top wrestling matches are held (abbreviation)
3. State where wrestling matches may be seen (abbreviation)
4. .... Erich, very tough grappler (2wds.)
5. Enforcer No....., wrestler
6. Larry ....., tough grappler
7. Initials of wrestling immortal, Chief Don Eagle
8. Dory Funk ....., father of 37 across
9. ..... Kirby, rough grappler
10. Initials of lady wrestler Barbara Nichols
12. ..... Charles Montague, tough grappler
16. Belonging to wrestler, Joe Turner
18. ..... Hi Lee, British wrestler
20. A place where wrestling matches can be seen (abbreviation)
21. Tony ..... Clair, British wrestler
22. Last two initials of John Paul Henning, wrestler
23. ..... Kong Emile Czaya, wrestling immortal who was called "the Man-Mountain of Asia"
25. Wilbur ....., mat star
28. Initials of lady grappler Kathy Starr
29. The ..... Doctor, tough grappler
32. Initials of wrestler Rock Rogowski
33. State where wrestling matches are held (abbreviation)
34. ..... Sasaki, tough villain wrestler
35. Belonging to 38 across
39. ..... Don George, former wrestling great
40. Eddie ....., tough wrestler
41. Initials of Red Roberts, grappler
43. Initials of Betty Niccoli, lady wrestler
44. Berniece ..... Rue, lady grappler
45. ..... Mongol, villain wrestler

Solution In Next Month's Issue

FAN CLUB CHATTER

By DON WILSON

Susan Harman, editor of Ringside Reporter, poses with wrestler Dutch Savage in Eugene, Oregon.

Hi, welcome to another issue of Fan Club Chatter. It is very disgusting to find several people being swindled after reading of someone's name in this column. Matter of fact, I may consider not listing any type of sellers of material without either knowing them personally, such as professionals like Gene Gordon, Lil Al, Dan Westbrook, and a few others, or else having them post a security bond of some type. Will just have to see what happens in the near future.

I have received some serious complaints against Larry Ditery, Jr., of 1905 Davidson Ave., Apt. 5, Bronx, N.Y., and advise no one purchase anything from him till further notice. He also uses the name Junior Ditery. So at the end of this column, I will list the sellers of material I recommend.

Ev Arnold, 4801 Bryan, Apt. 108, Dallas, Texas 75204, would like to buy photos of TORU TANAKA, as she is his number one fan. Thanks Ev for the very kind words about WRESTLING REVUE and our sister publication, WRESTLING MONTHLY.

Lenny Kruizenga, Lynn, Mass., advised he is dropping his club, called MASSACHUSETTS MATSIDE, due to school work and related activities.

Linda Abbott has dropped the LES WOLFF FAN CLUB due to lack of cooperation from her honorary. Sorry to see the club go, as it was one of the best. But I'm glad to report Linda continues to assist her sister Debbie, who is prexie of the excellent TERRY KAY FAN CLUB. For complete info write to Debbie at Route 1, Box 16, Timberville, Va. 22853.

I wish to remind you of the W.F.I.A. Mail Order Raffle, a yearly affair in connection with the annual convention. Everyone is a winner. Send $1.00 plus 8 cent stamp to Tom Burke, Pres. W.F.I.A., P.O. Box 11007, St. Louis, Mo. 63135.

One of the finest publications I've seen is the WRESTLING INFORMATION BULLETIN, and at five issues for $3,00, I know you will enjoy some excellent reading. Send to Ron Dobratz, P.O. Box 1807, Rockford, Ill. 61110. These 32-page journals will arrive about every five weeks.

Also some real fine reading are two newspapers containing wrestling news only. Well worth the money are LONE STAR WRESTLING by Action Sports Publishing Co., P.O. Box 1567, Irving, Texas 75060, 12 monthly issues for $5.00 or try a sample copy at 50

Sheri Crowder, president of the Kevin Sullivan Fan Club, and her honorary.

cents. The other paper comes from Oregon, THE RINGSIDE REPORTER, P.O. Box 324, Eugene, Oregon 97401. Only $2.50 a year for the monthly issues, or try a sample copy for 25 cents, and stamp. I recommend both of these publications.

Teturo Masuko, 233 Nakawakura, Matud-City, Chiba-kem, 270, Japan, would like to hear from fans of DICK THE BRUISER, THE CRUSHER, HARLEY RACE, RED BASTIEN, NICK BOCKWINKEL & BRUNO SAMMARTINO.

Tom Steinberg, 795 Chatham St., E., Windsor, Ontario 14, Canada, would like to hear from fans around the world, his fovorites are LORD LAYTON, BEN JUSTICE, DEWEY ROBERTSON, LITTLE BEAR, GUY MITCHELL and others.

Danny Sandefur, 404 Maynard Dr., Tupelo, Miss. 38801, would like to hear from fans in Memphis, Jackson, Miss., and Louisville, Ky.

Carrot, P.O. Box 203, Osceola, Ark., 72358, would like to hear from fans of DON CARSON, BLASSIE, EARL MAYNARD, ROCKY JOHNSON, BUDDY AUSTIN, RAY MENDOZA, BLACK GORDMAN & RAMON ORTEGA.

Received publications from the following fan clubs this month, and certainly enjoyed them all, and know you will too, so try them. . .you'll like them.

EDDIE MARLIN FAN CLUB, Dorothy Smith, 5517 Rustic Way, Louisville, Ky., 40210, monthly newsletters, $2.50 year, plus card and 8 X 10 photo. I had the pleasure of meeting Dorothy and Charlene Durnil, who run the club, at the W.F.I.A. regional conference in Milwaukee and I'm proud to announce they won the plaque for best display. I'll have a complete report in the next issue.

Received a well-done first issue from the RIP TYLER & EDDIE SULLIVAN FAN CLUB, headed by Joan Daniels, P.O. Box 5663, Pensacola, Fla. 32505, and Joan offers bi-monthly issues of "The Success" card, pin and 8 X 10 photo.

JOSE LOTHARIO FAN CLUB, Joyce Wilkerson, Pres., 302 N.W. 9th Ave., No. 2, Miami, Fla. 33128, a highly rated club, this month with 16 pages and cover. $2.00 a year,

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bi-monthly bulletins, card and 8 X 10 photo.

MR. WRESTLING FAN CLUB, Christine Copelan, Pres., P.O. Box 774, Alachua, Fla., 32615. This month's issue 7 pages and cover, well done, and just $2.50 a year, monthly bulletins, card and photo.

KANSAS CITY FAN CLUB INT'L, sent first issue of "Ringside Review" and thanks to Jim Cross and Gary Garrett for a job well done. This month's issue was 9 pages and cover, $2.00 a year, quarterly bulletins, card and 2 color photos. Write to them at 6307 Woodson Drive, Mission, Kan. 66202. Single copy for 35 cents.

JIM VALIANT FAN CLUB, Marilea Niedzial, Pres., Boylston Road, Berlin, Mass. 01503, sent the current issue, very good, and this month's issue was 10 pages and cover. Write to Marilea for complete information.

THE A.W.A. FAN CLUB, Kathy Szalewski, Pres., 1003 So. 16th St., Apt. 11, Milwuakee, Wis., 53204, two monthly issues this time; one 19 pages and the other 14. Interesting and well done, only $2.00 a year, plus a membership card. Kathy and the A.W.A. club sponsored the recent regional WFIA Conference in Milwaukee, and congratulations to Kathy for her outstanding efforts.

ALL STAR WRESTLING NEWS, Don Alverez, Pres., P.O. Box 1024, Los Altos Hills, Calif. 94022. Bi-monthly and card, $2.00 a year or 35 cents an issue. This issue was 11 pages and interesting.

WRESTLING RESULTS FROM N.Y., BOSTON, L.A., PHIL., & AUSTRALIA, Stuart Saks, Pres., 14 Mitchell Ave., Plainview, N.Y., 11803, monthly and 35 cents per issue. This issue was 19 pages and cover, with plenty of info.

SAN FRANCISCO ALL STAR WRESTLING FAN CLUB, Joe Fernandez, Pres., and please note new address, 3844 Mission St. Box 4, San Francisco, Calif., 94110. Monthly and card, 40 cents sample or $3.00 per year. This issue was 5 pages and cover, mostly area info.

NORTH AMERICA WRESTLING FAN CLUB, Tony Alexander, Pres., 227 Jefferson Road, Hoffman Estates, Ill., 60172. Monthly and card, 35 cents per issue. This issue was four pages, and it was a combined two-month issue.

ANDERSON BROTHERS FAN CLUB, Pam Daniels, Pres., 544 Leonard Road, Norfolk, Va., 23505. First issue I have received in many months, 9 pages and cover, with interesting news on the honoraries. Write for complete info.

GEETO MONGOL FAN CLUB, Robert Lapinsky, Pres., 494 Eigth St.,

Donora, Pa., 15033. Monthly, card and photo. Received three issues this month. One was 5 pages and cover, the others were 3 pages and cover. This is a new club and seems to be off to a good start. $2.00 a year.

RON & DON WRIGHT FAN CLUB, Rosetta Lamons, Pres., Rt. 3, Buttermilk Road, Concord, Tenn., 37720. Quarterly reports and newsletters, $2.00 a year and 8 X 10 photo and card. Rec'd two issues, 12 pages and cover, and three-page newsletter. Well done and interesting.

THE TEXAS WRESTLING SCENE, Robert Cunningham, Pres., 3509 Kent Lane, Wichita Falls, Texas 76308.

Professor Tanaka and his fan club president, Francis Pijewski.

$2.00 a year, 35 cents sample copy, this issue was 6 pages and cover, good area info.

SAN FRANCISCO WRESTLING BEAT, Eddie Giovannetti, Pres., 153 Mirada Drive, Daley City, Calif., 94015. Monthly and card, 30 cents or $1.50 a year, this was a 7-page issue with cover, with general area news.

TAMPA SCENE, Scott Teal, Editor, 3208 23rd Ave. W., Brandenton, Fla. 33505, monthly 35 cents each or $3.00 a year, well done, interesting and consistent. This issue was 8 pages and cover.

LOUIS TILLETT FAN CLUB, publishes "The Main Event" monthly, Joe Combs, Pres., P.O. Box 152, Miami Shores, Fla., 33153. $2.00 a year, this issue was 4 pages of news and photos, plus cover. Sample copy 25 cents.

JERRY JARRETT FAN CLUB, Linda Scott, Pres., Star Route, Riverview Drive, Shappardsville, Ky., 40165. $3.00 a year for monthly bulletins, club pin, card and 8 X 10 photo. This issue 5 pages and cover, well done.

THE WRESTLING TURNBUCKLE, Bill DeLage, Pres., 115-17 Linden Blvd., So. Ozone Park, N.Y. 11420. This issue, 2 pages and cover, dues $3.00 a year, monthly.

WHITEY CALDWELL FAN CLUB, Linda Oglesby, Pres., Route 6, Merriman Road, Knoxville, Tenn., 37914. Received signed permission slip, honorary membership card. Also 8 X 10 photo and semi-annual bulletin.

THE EAST COAST THING, Steve Allosso, Pres., 25 Homer Road, Arlington, Mass. 02174. Received first issue, 7 pages and cover, 25 cents a copy or $2.00 a year, for the bi-monthly issues.

TOJO YAMAMOTO FAN CLUB, Linda Romans, Pres., 3762 Lentz Ave., Louisville, Ky., 40215. Received an honorary membership card.

HEROES OF WRESTLING, Robert Morgan, Pres., 5940 Pine St., Philadelphia, Pa., 19143. Rec'd letter advising of club starting. Dues are $2.00 a year or single copies 50 cents, bi-monthly, and membership card. With a title like that, this club can be as big and good as the club officers want to make it.

MAT REPORT FAN CLUB, Jeff Cooper, Pres., 2145 W. Arthur, Chicago, Ill. 60645. Letter advises club dues are 35 cents or 3 issues for $1.00, bi-monthly. Jeff needs correspondents

Television announcer Gordon Solie and fan Donnie McWhorter in Miami, Florida.

from around the country.

KEVIN SULLIVAN FAN CLUB, Sheri Crowder, Pres., 500 Alger Ave., Louisville, Ky. 40214. Should have the first bulletin out by the time this hits the newsstands. Dues $2.50 a year, monthly, card, button and 8 X 10 photo.

FLORIDA WRESTLING RESULTS & NEWS, Steve Ashley, Pres., 202 Highland Dr., Altamonte Springs, Fla., 32701. Current newsletter 3 pages, 10 cents or $1.50 a year, bi-monthly containing mostly area info.

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CLUB, Frances Pijewski, Pres., 56 Burke St., Apt. 237, So. Boston, Mass., 02127. Glad to see this club back in action Dues are $2.00 a year for 5 X 7 photo, wallet photo, card and bi-monthly bulletins. I know you will enjoy this club.

EDOUARD CARPENTIER FAN CLUB, Rosie Macumber, Pres., 221 Jasper Dr., Security, Colo. 80911. Rosie advises club bulletins are available at 50 cents each for sample copy. Yearly dues are $2.00 and eight cent stamps. Bi-monthly.

MEMPHIS WRESTLING SCENE, Robert Love, Pres., 3606 Oakley, Memphis, Tenn. 38111. Rec'd first issue, 3 pages and cover, monthly, area news with photos. Sample 25 cents, $2.00 a year.

DON MURACO FAN CLUB, Bunny Conway, Pres., 1579 So. 72nd St., West Allis, Wisc., 53214, sent an honorary membership card. $2.50 a year, quarterly newsletters.

RED BASTIEN FAN CLUB, Mathew Brager, Pres., 911 Bell Ave., Sheboygan, Wisc., 53081. Rec'd first issue, 6 pages and cover, quarterly and card, $2.25 per year.

THE GOLDEN YEARS, Jeffrey Siegel, Pres., 95 Sedgwick Ave., Yonkers, N.Y., 10705, advises the next issue will be out just prior to this issue being on the stands. If it is as good as the first issue, its well worth the 50 cent price. Try it, you'll like it.

Judy Busse, Box 571, 110 West Iowa Ave., George, Iowa 51237, would like to hear from girl mat fans, her favorite is STAN PULASKI.

Rick Feierman, 1517 Dahill Road, Brooklyn, N.Y., 11204 would like to trade material with fans in Chicago, Hawaii and California.

Richard Pearson, 32 Gleason St., Apt. 2, Dorchester, Mass., 02121 will send list of material available for an s.a.e.

Stan Galanski, 302 West Cherry St., New Castle, Pa., 16102 would like to hear from fans in Los Angeles, San Francisco, Pacific Northwest and Midwestern areas.

Barbara Stewart, 2522 Noble Road Raleigh, North Carolina, 27608 would like to obtain photos and programs about KURT STROHEIM.

David Busch, P.O. Box 346, Caughnawaga, Que., Canada, would like to buy or trade for photos of THE SHEIK.

Charles Comanto, 752 Onderdonk Ave., Ridgewood, Brooklyn, N.Y. 11227, would like to hear from amateurs interested in forming a club.

Mark Schlueter, 6035 South Kirkwood Ave., Cudahy, Wisc., 53110, would like to trade clippings and programs with fans around the country.

John Ordunez, 219 Oak St., Soledad, Calif., 93960 would like to buy the first 10 issues of WRESTLING REVUE. He has a number of back issues for sale.

Dale Wierzelewski, 1922 No. Riverview Road, Oconomowoc, Wisc., 53066, would like to hear from AWA fans, and fans of LARRY HENNIG.

Jeff Jorgensen, 1220 Deal Road, Wayside, N.J. 07712, would like to trade programs with fans in Honolulu, Los Angeles, Chicago, Miami, Baltimore, San Francisco and Madison Square Garden. Plus obtain photos, programs, etc. of THE SHEIK.

Received several photos, both 8 X 10 and snapshots, and list from Joe Junod and Wayne Elliot. Send an s.a.e. for their list. Joe is at 1226 Federal St., Philadelphia, Pa. 19147, and Wayne is at 6020 Irving St., Philadelphia, Pa. 19139.

Whitey Caldwell and his fan club president, Linda Oglesby.

One of the largest suppliers of color photos is Lil Al's Photos, P.O. Box 4, Port Allen, La. 70767. Send two 8 cent stamps and print name and address.

One of the largest suppliers of girl wrestlers photos is Gene Gordon, 419 Sylvania Ave., Charlotte, N.C., 28206, plus midgets and other photos, send an s.a.e. for his list.

Eugene Shelor, P.O. Box 15602, Tampa, Fla. 33614, is selling a Florida Wrestling News for 50 cents also has a list of photos. Send an s.a.e. Glad to hear that Gene is out of the hospital, and our sincere condolances regarding the loss of his wife.

Dennis Frigand, 1 Washington Ave., Morristown, N.J. 07960, sent his current list and sample photos. Please send an s.a.e. for your own copy.

Crusher Country, 14101 University Station, Minneapolis, Minn. 55414, has a lsit available for an s.a.e. of photos, Dr. X masks, other items.

Dean Silverstone, Box 1631, Bellevue, Wash. 98009, advised the NORTHWEST PHOTO ALBUM has had wide appeal and only $1.35 postpaid for the 48-page album. Under instructions from Bobby, they no longer charge membership dues for the BOBBY SHANE & SHERRI FAN CLUB. However, interested fans are asked to send 50cents in stamps and throughout the year they will receive a Bobby Shane magazine, various programs from arenas where he was or is at, plus a Fifth Poll of the Man Fan Club issue.

Dave Burzynski, 8294 Olympia, Detroit, Mich. 48213, has grab bags for sale, $2.00 and $5.00, with programs, photos, magazines, etc.

International Wrestling News, 98-465-2 Kaonohi St., Aiea, Hawaii 96701, sells the excellent Honolulu wrestling program for 25 cents.

Allan Cooper, 12700 Murray, Taylor, Mich. 48180, would like to buy Japanese and Mexican wrestling magazines or trade for them.

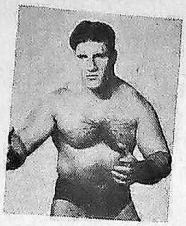
Bobby Owens, 830 Headrow Terrace, Hampton, Va. 23366, would like to know the whereabouts of Rock Riddle, former Pres. of the HAWK & HANSEN FAN CLUB, who I understand is now a pro grappler.

George Figuerroa, 823 Hunts Point, Bronx, N.Y. 10474, sells lists of wrestlers records for 5 cents plus an s.a.e., and you will receive five records and a name-game puzzle.

John Shagoury, 19 Bobolink St., West Roxbury, Mass. 02132, writes he has number of wrestling magazines, programs, clippings, etc. Send an s.a.e. for list.

The WRESTLING FANS INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATION, P.O. Box 11007, St. Louis, Mo. 63135, has an excellent sale of various programs, back issues of numerous fan club publications and other items for sale. Send 50 cents for program and poster with photos of BETTY NICCOLI, JEAN ANTONE, JACK BRISCO PAT O'CONNOR and others and receive the list free. For those of you who are not a member, send $2.50 for year's dues and receive a membership card, four reports and two newsletters, plus annual convention program and brochure.

In closing, I hope you all enjoyed this column. Let me know; I appreciate your letters, and if you require an answer, please enclose an s.a.e. Write me in care of the W.F.I.A. address above. It gives me pleasure to announce the engagement of Jerry Weiss of New York, and Andrea Lynn of Tampa, Fla. My sincere best wishes. See ya all next month.



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READER'S PROS AND CONS

(Continued From Page 8)

Blackjack Mulligan used to wrestle here but went East because he couldn't win matches against our stars. The same for Luke Graham. To be called "good" they have to leave the A.W.A. in order to win any matches because they can't beat our stars. Verne Gagne can beat Funk or Morales and would if given half a chance. The world's greatest wrestler, Crusher, could easily win over any of the East and West coast wrestlers.

At present, Nick Bockwinkel and Ray Stevens are the World Tag Team champs. Why don't Graham and Tyler wrestle them? How about Mad Dog and Butcher Vachon? All of them are afraid. The only good wrestlers outside the A.W.A. are Mil Mascaras, The Destroyer, and Bruno Sammartino. So how about a little more on the American Wrestling Alliance! It's the best.

Mendon Gilbert
Brodhead, Wisconsin

(Editor's Note: It is the object of this magazine to cover all wrestling and though we agree that there is none better than the A.W.A. we feel that an international wrestling magazine must devote space to all parts of the world. In this issue we hope you enjoy the article on Nick Bockwinkel and Ray Stevens.)

BRUNO DESERVES A TITLE MATCH

Sirs:

I am writing to ask about Bruno Sammartino. Bruno has won his last 10 matches in the Civic Arena. He is going to wrestle Crusher Stan Stasiak. Bruno will defeat this Crusher Stasiak. If he wins, it will be 11 matches without a loss. My point is that I think they are trying to hold back a match between Bruno and Pedro Morales. In my heart I fell Bruno is the W.W.W. F. Champion. He had the belt for 8 years then he lost it to Ivan Koloff. How many more matches does Bruno have to win before he gets to wrestle Pedro? Pedro Morales is a very good wrestler but if Bruno ever gets this match the W.W.W.F. Champion will be Bruno Sammartino.

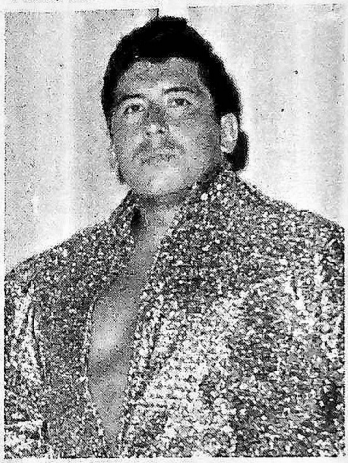
Douglas Rich
New Castle, Pa.

(Editor's Note: Apparently Pittsburgh Promoter Ace Freeman got tired of waiting for Pedro to sign for a match with Bruno also. The Pittsburgh promotion recently dropped out of the World Wide Wrestling Federation and joined the National Wrestling Federation. Probably the N.W.F. champion, Waldo von Erich, will give Bruno a title shot at his version of the crown.)

ROCKY COLOMBO IS HER FAVORITE

Sirs:

I would like to ask you to put more in the Wrestling Revue about these wrestlers; Rocky Colombo, Ramon Perez, and Jimmy and Billy Golden.



My favorite is Rocky Colombo. I would really like to know more about him. I go to the wrestling matches two times a week. And I know that Rocky is from South America.

Becky Blankey
Reform, Alabama

Solution to Puzzle

DIAMOND LIL
(Continued From Page 26)

"Why?"

"Because it's pretty and warm."

"How long were you there?"

"About a month."

In all our conversation Diamond Lil never blossomed as a potential challenger to Johnny Carson or any of the other talk show hosts. In the same brief summaries she told me she likes country music, especially that of Jerry Lee Lewis, Merle Haggard, and Charley Pride; she enjoys movies when she has the opportunity, and Paul Newman's her favorite; she like to play pool; she likes to go fishing with her largest catch thus far a 2 lb., 7 oz. trout from a private lake; and most of all she likes to wrestle, which should come as no surprise to her opponents. When asked what kind of food she preferred, she replied, "Oh, Chinese food, or seafood, or Mexican food – I like any kind of food!"

Lil has two brothers in the Air Force, one sister who's married, and no relatives at all in pro wrestling. Her parents OK'd her decision to enter the sport with no strings attached, and her global ramblings have netted her an impressive income. She still speaks – when she does – with a slight trace of a Southern accent, sort of like the tiny drop of lemon which nevertheless adds definitive smack to a cup of tea.

When it comes to other wrestlers, she says she respects Dory Funk, Jr., because, "He's always a gentleman." And she also regards Killer Kowalski with esteem. "I like him; he can take care of himself," she explains simply.

Diamond Lil is one of the sport's most sought-after villainesses. The heroines seek her out because they all have grudges to settle, the promoters track her down because she adds sex appeal and glamour to their cards, and the fans throng to watch her because she erases their worries and cares for an evening. Yet she still garners a lot of unfavorable attention. From heckling to cup throwing the dowagers in the crowd attempt to unravel her calm demeanor, and this is one of the few times she crawls out of her untalkative shell, as she shouts insults back at them with the gusto of Babe Ruth swinging the small timber. It could very well be that these plainer women are jealous of Lil's charm, or maybe they lead such drab everyday lives that yelling at a celebrity amounts to a vacation for them, but whatever the case Lil gives as good as she takes in nearly every instance.

What came as a surprise – even a shock – was to learn that men too go after the petite brunette in an arena and try to bully her. Although she has escaped the cigarette and knife wounds that male villains sometimes endure, another incident proved rather frightening. "I was leaving the ring after a match," she recalled, "and I saw a man pick up a crowbar and start after me. The cops got to him before he got to me."

"Have you ever hit a spectator in self-defense?"

"Not yet," she said, but her firm look of defiance showed no hesitation on her part of belting either a guy or a gal should one of them come looking for trouble.

"Lil, you've talked about how good the sport has been for you through the rewards of travel and sound wages and meeting interesting people. What about wrestling as a career opportunity for young people? If a young girl came to you foradvice on entering the sport, would you encourage or discourage her and why?"

"I think it'd be entirely up to her," Lil said. "I wouldn't do either one."

Another short, simple answer but one that seems to embody a life style for the Diamond Lil of the seventies: Do what you want to do, live life to its fullest, put forth your best efforts, and stay happy!

And as for her wrestling ability,
I can only advise you to listen well;
Not many have her agility,
Not many ever will I foretell,
For those who may be stronger
And those who may have greater speed
Will find that she can last longer
With the courage of a galloping steed,
With her hair streaming down her back,
Or perhaps flipping over into her face,
Tiny Lil is on the attack
Shoving big ones into their place,
And if her wrestling style doesn't win
Which, to me, would be a surprise
Then perhaps she'll take off and spin
And melt you right down with her eyes,
Perhaps she'll trim you down a whit
And put some glamour where the
crudeness has been And when she does,
you'll have to admit That Diamond
Lil shines again.

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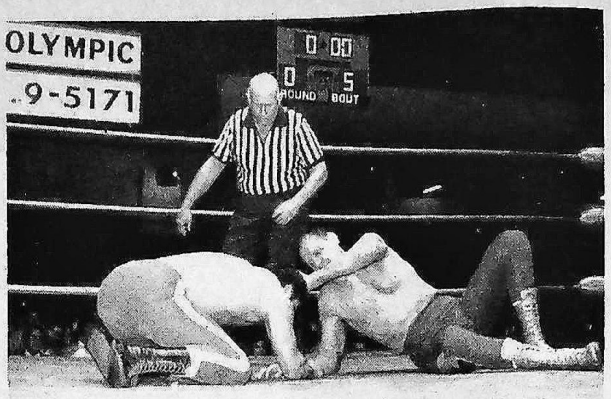
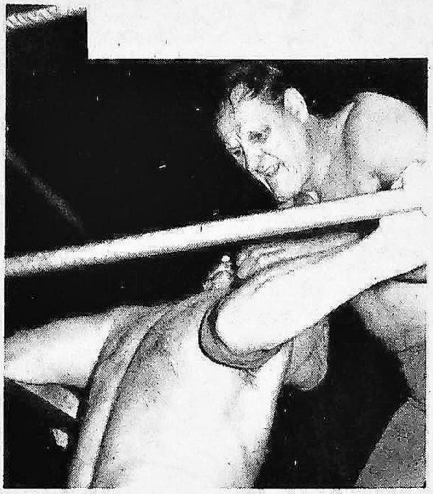




The Killer started strong, using his usual brand of illegal tactics, often grabbing Tolos by the hair to gain the advantage.

THE GREEK AND THE KILLER

(Continued From Page 27)

reached into his bag and pulled out a pair of brass knuckles, I cringed against the wall, thinking he would use them on me. Instead, he slammed them on the table.

"I only use those if I have to. Your next question is why should I tell you that? Well, I want you and the fans to know that while I may be liked by the fans I'm the same John Tolos and nobody is gonna take advantage of me, nobody! Sure I'm gonna win the Americas' Championship again. As far as I'm concerned I never lost the title."

All of a sudden, who should walk into the same dressing room but Freddie Blassie, arch-enemy of Tolos. However Fred came in hobbling on crutches. Seems Killer Kowalski had broken Blassie's kneecap and shattered the bone during a tag team match at the Olympic. Blassie's entrance shocked Tolos and his mouth flew open. "Tolos, tonight I want you to let me be in your corner. What's past is past with us. We both got something to settle with Kowalski and I want to see that you get a fair deal. Tolos wanted to shake Blassie's hand, but he didn't. Instead he just nodded his okay and with that Blassie turned around and walked out. For the first time in his life John Tolos was speechless.

Kowalski entered the ring first, greeted by the boos of the fans. He walked over to his corner and turned around slowly, for the boos turned into cheers as John Tolos and Freddie Blassie came walking down the aisle. . .together.

Blassie waved to the fans and then aimed his crutch at the Killer. Kowalski was enraged. He ran across the ring to attack Blassie, but Tolos met him with a stiff right to the jaw. Both wrestlers ripped their jackets off and, without introductions, tore into

each other.

The hulking Kowalski had the upper hand for most of the first fall. He ripped at Tolo's back and chest, applying his famous claw. Soon the Killer leaped off the top rope and scored the first fall.

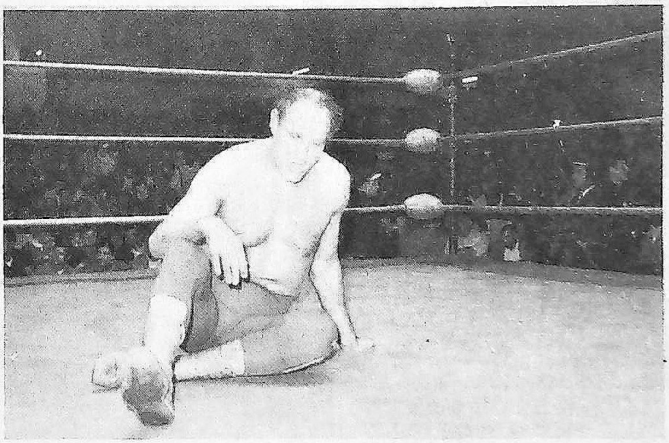
In the second fall Blassie had time to whisper a few words of encouragement to the Golden Greek. He also slipped John the pair of brass knuckles that Tolos had left on the table. Without the referee seeing this, Tolos slipped the deadly weapon into his trunks. The bell rang and Kowalski flew out of this corner and right into a solid left hand by Tolos. Now Tolos began to work over Kowalski as both men rarely used a proper wrestling hold. Then, when the referee wasn't looking, Tolos took out the brass knuckles and slamed them into Kowalski's head. The Killer went out like a light and The Golden Greek covered him for the count of three.

Shaking the nuts and bolts from his head, Kowalski came to and roared angrily at the referee. Needless to say, Tolos gave the brass weapon back to Blassie during the rest period. As the bell rang for the second fall, a low blow by The Killer caught Tolos off guard. Now big John went down. The pain was more than any man could stand. Killer went to work on Tolos' arm and legs. Softening Tolos up for the Killer, he dragged the Golden Greek to a corner and climbed the top rope for his fatal knee drop. The fans were in a state of shock. This was it. . .or was it? As Killer mounted the top rope, Blassie took his crutch and – WHAMMMMMM – sent the Killer flying half way across the ring. Tolos came to and flopped across the prostrate form of The Killer.

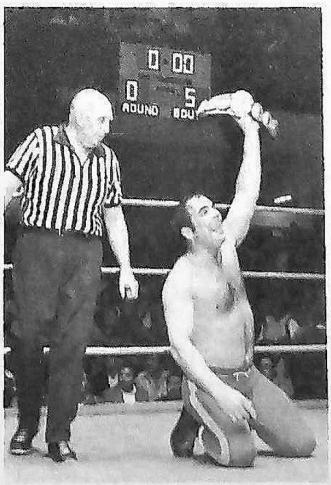
One. . .two. . .three. . .and the winner was John Tolos, the new Americas' Heavyweight Wrestling Champion! The fans went wild. Kowalski attacked everyone in sight, including Olympic promoter Mike LeBell who entered the ring to present Tolos the gold belt. For the very first time in his long career, tears welled up in Tolos' eyes. He grabbed the microphone from announcer Jimmy Lennon and thanked the fans for their support. This was a night he would never forget.

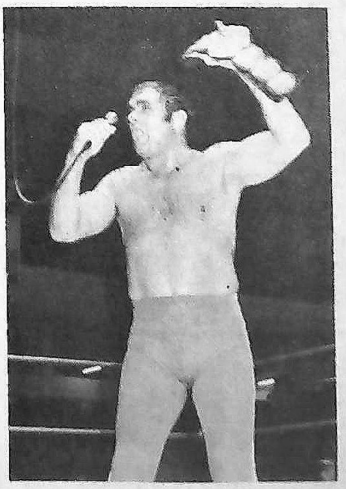
You ask what happened to Freddie Blassie and the crutch. The fans around here don't seem to remember anything about that. Would you?

Before the night was over, John Tolos got in plenty of licks himself. Here he batters the Killer, who is on the apron, from outside the ring.



A battered Killer Kowalski sat stunned in the center of the wrestling ring after the decision that saw the belt and the match awarded to John Tolos.





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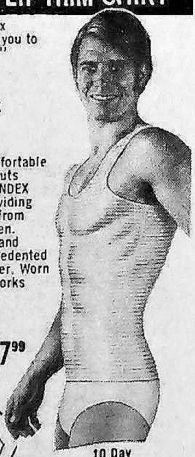

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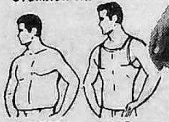
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BOOK REVUE

By NORMAN H. KIETZER

FRIDAY NIGHT IN THE COLISEUM

143 pages, Softbound $7.95, Clothbound $17.50, Allison Press. By Geoff Winningham.

Mixed emotions. That is the only way to describe my feelings after studying this book. First, we will point out the good things. The book is well written and gives an accurate picture of the wrestling subculture in Houston, Tex. This proves to be much like the wrestling in any other area of the country. The author is not, nor does he claim to be, an expert on professional wrestling. Rather, he talks as an outsider looking in and making a study of Houston wrestling. The book is primarily photos. He focuses a great deal of attention on the fans and this is generally well done. He also has many photos of wrestling action. Those photos vary from excellent to fair to inadequate. We judge, of course, on whether they would be of sufficient quality to use in our magazine, and we come out with the feeling that some would and some would not. All in all, as far as content is concerned, the book is well done and very enjoyable.

The book has been promoted in spectacular fashion. It awoke Life magazine to the fact that, according to the magazine, "professional wrestling is enjoying such a remarkable comeback these days that it ranks as the fifth most popular spectator sport in America." Both the book and Life magazine give the impression that wrestling was down and suddenly is increasing in popularity. Nothing could be farther from the truth. Since wrestling left network television in the early 1950's it has prospered as never before and although lack of publicity in newspapers and national magazines like Life may leave the uninformed thinking that wrestling went downhill, it did nothing of the sort. Wrestling has been growing continually for over three decades now in both interest and attendance. We also noted an article entitled "Friday Night In The Coliseum" in the March issue of Atlantic Monthly magazine, and although the author there is listed as William C. Martin and no mention is made of the book, we can only assume that since some of the same photos are used and much of the story reads word for word that Mr. Martin and Mr. Winningham are one in the same person. Of course, being connected with professional wrestling we can hardly fault anyone for using more than one name.

Mixed emotions, we said. So far everything we've said comes out on the plus side. The one thing we really have reservations about is the price. We wonder if $7.95 for a paper bound edition, or $17.50 for a clothbound edition isn't just a bit too much to pay for this book. I guess how much enjoyment you get from owning it is the key. If the price were a bit lower we would recommend the book without reservation. But, taking everything into consideration, we instead recommend that you decide for yourself whether you want to pay this price and make up your own mind whether to purchase it or not.

Les Welch is proud of his son, Roy Lee, who is following in the tradition of his father.

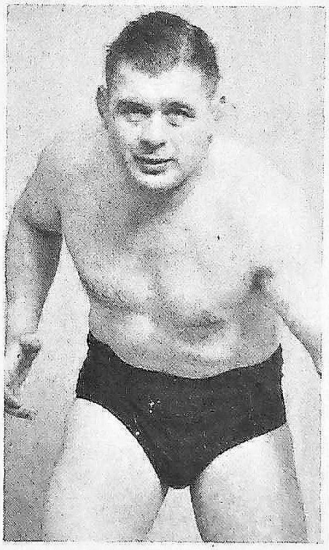
Cabot. Cabot was so scared that he tried to apologize but Dory Sr. would not accept the apology. The police came, calmed Dory down, and made him go home.

Unknown to Dory, his son, Terry Funk, who is married and also lives in Amarillo, was watching the same TV station after his father left. Terry did not know that his father had been there and had left. He came charging in and grabbed Sabastian Cabot and wanted to fight him. The police came again. This time they escorted Mr. Cabot to his hotel, waited while he packed his bags, then took him to the airport. Cabot is lucky Dory Jr. was out of town, or he would have had another Funk after him.

I bet Cabot will never set foot in Texas again. Incidentally, before he left, he apologized to Dory Funk Sr. on T.V. I bet Mr. Cabot didn't know that Dory Sr. laid out six punks for saying the same thing, and he only took six punches to do it. This was in the Avalon dance hall a month prior to Cabot's appearance in Amarillo. A word to the wise: never say anything to a wrestler that you can't back up.

Don Greene, the millionaire wrestler, is busy defending his U.S. Junior Heavyweight belt. Don better look out. If he puts on any more weight he will have to forfeit the title.

Pat Malone, veteran wrestler and trainer of bears, is now training his two-year-old Canadian black bear to wrestle. Pat says he will have Ginger, the wrestling bear, ready to take on all comers this summer.



The late Bobby Roberts, one of the top pros of the forties and fifties, died recently in Florida.

Blood is part of championship wrestling as Don Greene just found out in this photo snapped after he defended his junior title.

Bobby Hart and Lorenzo Parente are now wrestling in Oklahoma where they are undefeated.

Roy Lee Welch, son of Lester Welch, is doing great as a pro wrestler in Florida.

Frank Monte of the Alaskans was working out in the gym with weights the other day and his arms looked good. I asked Frank how big his arms were and he said he didn't know because he never measured them. I said, "They look about 17" to me." Then Frank said, "No. . .19½." .

That's all for now.

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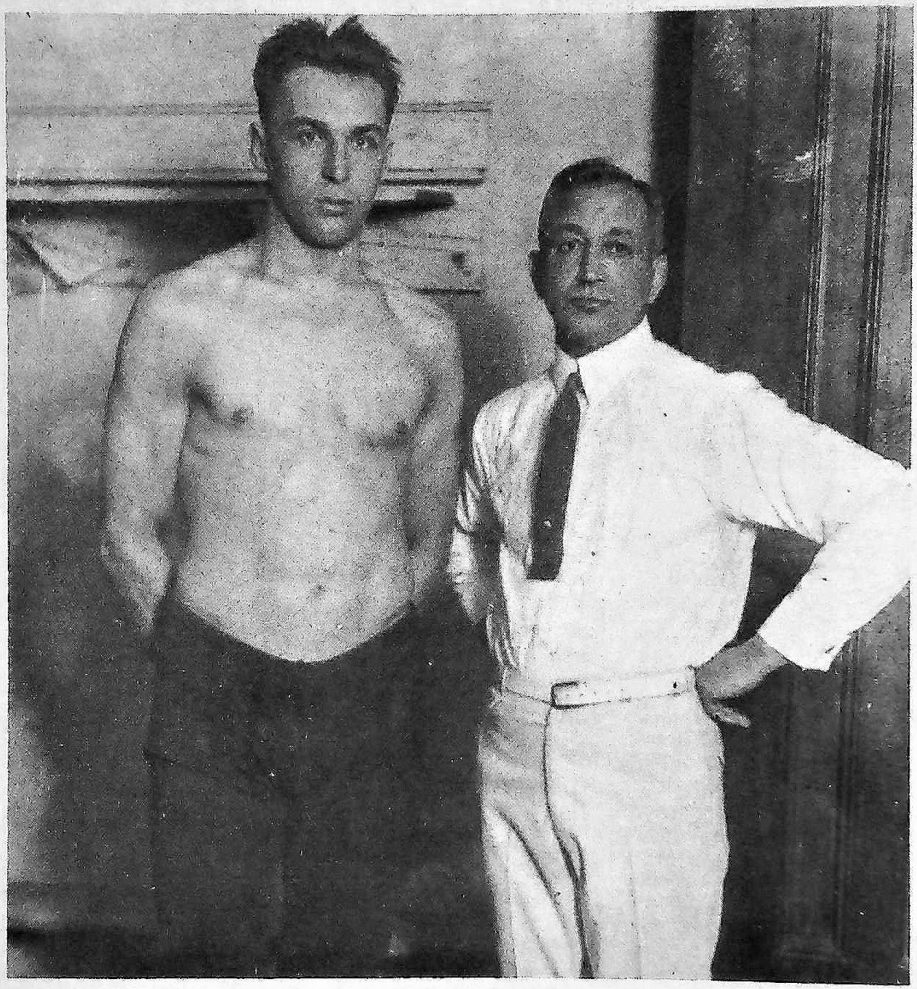

TONY STECHER
MINNEAPOLIS, MINNESOTA

It is only fitting that the above photo shows Tony Stecher towered over by his brother Joe. Joe was named to the Hall of Fame as a wrestler some months ago and was truly deserving of that honor, but equally deserving is Tony, who acted as Joe's manager and was the power behind the champ during his reign. Later Tony also managed Bronko Nagurski when "The Bronk" held world title honors. But probably the most lasting contribution that Tony left to professional wrestling was the establishment of the Minneapolis Wrestling Club. It has grown to be what many consider the top wrestling office in the country. It was Tony Stecher who brought Wally Karbo into that organization. Karbo worked his way up from office boy to referee to matchmaker and today many say he is the top promoter in the business. Few people realize that Tony was a great wrestler himself, but forsook an active role on the mat to concentrate full time on the business end of the sport. Today a plaque adorns the wall of the Minneapolis Auditorium in Tony's memory and the Wrestling Writers Association of America have decided that he should be similarly honored in the Wrestling Hall of Fame.

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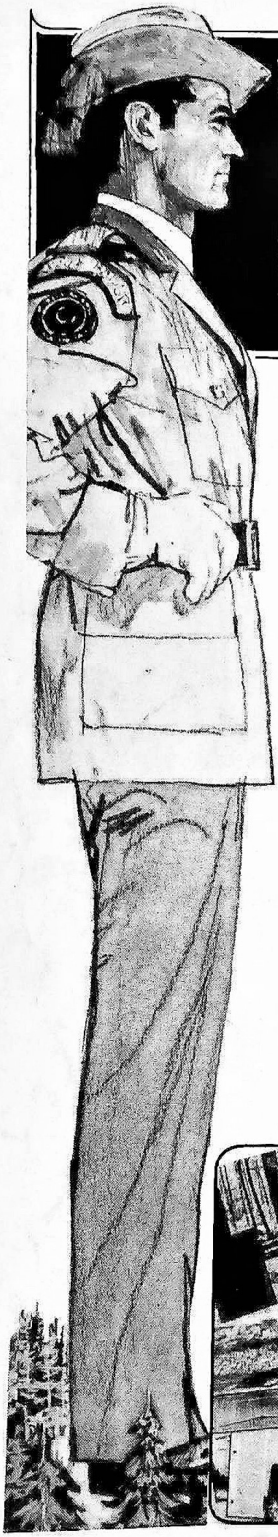

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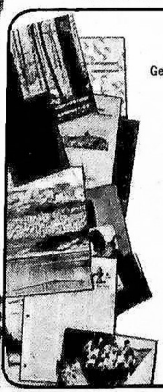

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